

LAST WEEK'S  
AVERAGE DAILY SALE  
468,000  
No 63,029

# Lawson warns Thatcher over 'interference'

## Chancellor hints at quitting after Budget

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson is expected to seek an assurance from the Prime Minister that she will never again publicly overrule a central plank of his economic policy, according to informed sources.

Without such an undertaking, his close colleagues believe it unlikely that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will stay in his present post for much longer, and that his departure from the Government will be hastened.

The full extent of Mr Lawson's unhappiness over Mrs Thatcher's interference last week in his exchange rate policy emerged yesterday as he made the final preparations for what is expected to be a radical tax-reforming Budget today.

The reception Mr Lawson receives for his measures both from the financial markets

and his Conservative backbench colleagues will have an important bearing on whether he carries on for much longer, it was said.

But he is unlikely to be prepared to continue if there is any chance of a repetition of last Tuesday's intervention by the Prime Minister, which Mr Lawson felt had totally undermined his exchange rate policy. Mrs Thatcher surprised Mr Lawson and the Treasury

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by publicly ruling out heavy foreign exchange intervention or interest rate cuts to restrain the rise in the pound.

Although the two have had differing views on exchange rate management for some time the public confirmation of the breach so close to the Budget was seen to be deeply damaging.

It was also disclosed yesterday that an attempt had been made by Mrs Thatcher and Mr Lawson to reconcile their differences before both appeared in the Commons last Thursday afternoon.

A formula was agreed under which both, when they received the inevitable questions about their reported differences, would say that exchange rate stability "did not mean immobility".

In the event Mr Lawson, during Treasury questions, and Mrs Thatcher, during Prime Minister's questions, made the remarks, but they added to them in a way which compounded the obvious disagreement between them.

Mr Lawson said that "any further significant rise in the exchange rate against the deutschmark would be unlikely to be sustainable". Mrs Thatcher, in an embellishment which reportedly infuriated the Chancellor, said: "There is no way in which one can buck the market".

It was said by close colleagues of Mr Lawson yesterday that last Tuesday's episode had done the real damage. But neither that nor Thursday's had been caused by any ill-intent on Mrs Thatcher's behalf towards Mr Lawson. Rather, they blame it on her instinctive aversion to any suggestion of market intervention.

Close colleagues said yesterday that such had been Mr Lawson's surprise and disappointment at Mrs Thatcher's action that the thought of immediate resignation might have crossed his mind. But it would have quickly passed because of the imminence of the Budget and his realization

of the damage it would do.

Even before last week's events Mr Lawson had spoken to friends about the possibility of standing down from the Government during the present Parliament.

His ambition had been to present today's and one more Budget next year, and to become Foreign Secretary in the autumn reshuffle of 1989. But he has accepted in conversations with friends that there is no certainty that Sir Geoffrey Howe will be ready to stand down from that post next year, or that Mrs Thatcher will want him to. If the foreign secretaryship is not available Mr Lawson had been expected to leave politics for the City.

It is now accepted by close colleagues that the events of the past few days may have brought that day a lot closer.

Government sources were again playing down the breach yesterday. Treasury sources voiced surprise over a report that Mr Lawson had been close to resigning last week. And sources close to Mrs Thatcher pointed out that she had never ruled out intervention for the purpose of "smoothing", although she believed the markets could not be bucked indefinitely.

But her opposition to the European Monetary System, early membership of which the Chancellor now favours, was again made plain.

With such disarray in the Government Mrs Thatcher's speech to the Conservative Central Council at Buxton on Saturday takes on added significance. She is expected to shrug off the differences between herself and Mr Lawson and, less seriously, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education. She will use the occasion to underline the message that the Government is united on key issues.

But Conservative MPs are angry that the dispute has been allowed to run on and overshadow what would otherwise be a triumphant day for Mr Lawson.

# IRA fires 'salute' in Belfast as bodies arrive in Ireland



Mourners carrying one of the three coffins after the chartered plane landed in Dublin from Gibraltar

## Hearses in slow convoy to North

By John Cooney

A big security operation by Irish police last night accompanied the start of the rainswept journey from Dublin to Belfast of the bodies of the three IRA terrorists killed in Gibraltar 10 days ago.

As the specially chartered BAC 1-11 touched down at Dublin Airport at 4.30pm, the IRA fired shots 100 miles away in Belfast. The IRA said the gun salute was a tribute to the dead and a warning to the British.

The announcement took the security forces in Ulster by surprise but it helped to relieve the tension in the Republic, where it had been feared the IRA would seek to embarrass the government of Mr Charles Haughey by firing a volley of shots over the coffins while they were still inside the jurisdiction of the Irish Republic.

The three-hearse cortege fell well behind schedule as it passed slowly through small villages on the 60-mile drive to its first stop at the strongly Republican town of Dundalk just south of the border.

The IRA sought maximum propaganda value from the journey in an effort to regain popular support, which it had lost following the Enniskillen bomb outrage last autumn.

More than 1,000 Sinn Fein supporters turned out at Dublin Airport in heavy rain for the return of the bodies. After the bodies were cleared, a private prayer ceremony for relatives in the airport's mortuary.

Among the crowd were Mr Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein president, and two former chiefs of staff of the IRA, Mr Sean MacStiofain and Mr Seamus Twomey. Mr Neil Blaney, a Republican member of the Irish Parliament, said he was there to pay his respects to the three dead persons, to express sympathy with the relatives, and "to protest at the brutality with which they were exterminated like vermin".

Preceded by a piper and accompanied by a Republican guard — composed of seven men and five women — the three bodies were placed in the hearses. Their coffins were draped with the Irish Republic's flag. There was no paramilitary display.

Speculation still surrounded the time of the funeral. Family sources said that requiem mass and burials of the three bodies in the Republican plot at Milltown Cemetery would take place tomorrow. Other sources indicated it would not take place until Thursday, St Patrick's Day.

## County councils may face abolition

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Abolition or dismemberment of the county councils looks certain if Mrs Margaret Thatcher is elected to a fourth term as Prime Minister.

Planning is at a preliminary stage but reorganization of county government is sure to be part of the next Conservative Party manifesto.

Discontent with high rates in the shires, which ministers blame on lack of control on spending, has led Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, to give a "nod and a wink" to the drafting of the plan by Conservative Party activists.

The highest rate increases in England this year will be imposed by Conservative-controlled shire counties. Several are about to levy increases well above the 7 to 8 per cent level in most city districts.

Stimulus for the plan has come from the Conservative leadership of the Association of District Councils, which has grown in influence as the Association of County Councils, a former bastion of Tory strength, has declined. Mrs Thatcher and Mr Ridley are understood to regard the district councilors, who have led the way on contracting out services, as preferable to the "wets" who control the counties.

## US-Israeli talks US braced for blunt talking with Shamir on peace plan

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, began crucial talks here yesterday to try to persuade Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, to modify his Middle East peace plan.

Despite Mr Shamir's strong opposition to the American proposals, the Israeli leader is unlikely to sway President Reagan or Jewish opinion in the United States, which strongly backs Washington's efforts to get peace negotiations going.

Mr Shamir's four-day visit comes at a critical moment in US-Israeli relations.

The Administration says that it will not put pressure on Israel, but rather will attempt to persuade Mr Shamir to accept the Shultz package, which proposes peace talks beginning in May with an international conference, and leading on to self-rule for Palestinian Arabs.

The US insists that, in an overall settlement, the Israelis must relinquish some land captured in 1967 in exchange for Arab recognition.

Mr Shamir's trip coincides with severe pressures on US ties with Jerusalem. The shooting of Palestinian demonstrators and scenes of Israeli soldiers beating people on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip have horrified many Americans, and caused

friendship for and commitment to Israel.

On the eve of his arrival, Mr Shamir said: "We are always ready to co-operate with the United States, knowing that the United States' methods in relating to its allies and partners are not through pressure, but always through mutual understanding and convincing." He said on arriving in New York that he had questions and proposals of his own.

But both sides are likely to exchange blunt remarks in private. President Reagan, who sees Mr Shamir tomorrow, will point out the strong support in Congress for the Administration's plan and Jewish leaders may urge Mr Shamir to make some concessions.

Mr Shamir's remarks that he accepted only Mr Shultz's signature in the plan and that it was a "surrender to rioters" have been widely reported here, and have set a confrontational tone to his visit and talks with Mr Shultz, Mr Frank Carlucci, the Defence Secretary, and other officials.

The Washington Post yesterday said that there were profound and even non-negotiable differences between the Administration and Mr Shamir. It urged Mr Shultz to stick stubbornly to his plan.

anguish in the influential Jewish community.

The US has also been frustrated by the split in the Israeli Government and the refusal of Mr Shamir to put the Shultz proposals to a Cabinet vote.

The Administration has been encouraged by the strong support it has received from many Jewish groups here, and from 30 pro-Israel senators who wrote to Mr Shultz, criticizing Mr Shamir's position. But it is widely recognized here that America cannot afford a public quarrel with Israel, especially during a presidential election year. Mr Shultz has been doggedly polite, refusing to put any public pressure on Mr Shamir and repeatedly emphasizing US

## P&O to sack striking seamen after talks fail

By Roland Radd

P&O European Ferries will today issue dismissal notices to 2,200 striking seamen at Dover after yesterday's negotiations with the National Union of Seamen broke down after five hours.

The company will offer the workforce new contracts containing the company's measures to cut the size of crews.

The NUS last night told the company that it had started "a serious war". It said the company would not be able to get any freight in or out of Dover.

The union said: "The membership will not go back to work on new contracts if they are dismissed. Since we have blocked every access to the port the company may as well sell their ships if they are determined to proceed with this action."

The company blamed the NUS for the impasse. It said

the union had been unwilling to accept restructuring proposals or come up with any alternatives.

Mr Roger Wilkens, NUS deputy general secretary, said talks at the Arbitration, Conciliation and Advisory Service in London broke down after he failed to persuade the company to spread its £6 million cost saving programme over three years.

Mr Graeme Dunlop, the company's managing director, said he was eager to end the six-week strike but could not put the restructuring programme to one side.

A mass NUS picket in Dover has been organized for tomorrow.

Mr John Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, who is sponsored by the NUS, criticized the company for its "gun-bo style of industrial relations."

## IAAF action is threat to Budd's career

The athletics career of Zola Budd may be over. Further pressure on the International Amateur Athletic Federation will almost certainly lead to the withdrawal today of the South African-born athlete from the British world cross-country team to compete in New Zealand in a fortnight's time. The event has been threatened by huge demonstrations by anti-apartheid campaigners.

The IAAF cited 'new evidence' concerning Budd's activities in South Africa last year, which refers to alleged participation by Budd in a race in Brakpan in late June, 1987.

Referring to a letter, sent by it to the BAAB last Friday, the IAAF yesterday called upon

the Board to withdraw Budd from any further competition until the next IAAF council meeting (in London on April 18), saying that "The BAAB is not now in a position to guarantee the eligibility of Zola Budd to participate in any competition under IAAF rules..."

Only one other major ship from the period — an amphora wreck discovered by an American team off Cyprus in the 1960s — has been excavated.

Little notice was taken when a Sicilian first found the wreck in the early 1980s. Oxford University heard about it in 1985 and an authorized expedition was sent to the area. The wreck was easily located and, after only one season's excavation, the finds have been extraordinary.

The excavation is being conducted by the university's Maritime Archaeological Research for Europe (MARE) in collaboration with Dr Giovanna Bacci, the superintendent

## Divers find ancient Greek treasure in volcano

By Andrew Morgan

Maritime archaeologists from Oxford University have discovered a cargo of ancient Greek pottery in a wreck off the northern coast of Sicily.

The find, heralded as one of the most important this century, was on a ship which sank about 2,400 years ago to a depth of 100 feet. It includes black glazed fine ware, including cups, bowls, jugs and lamps. Ships carrying nothing but fine ware are extremely rare, although the seabed above the wreck exhibits a wide range of pottery.

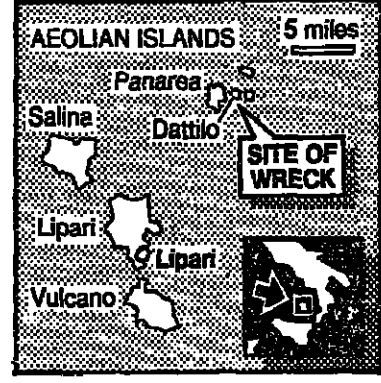
A diver described the first view of the find in the log. "It was as if the gods had all been sitting down to a banquet and then, for some reason, they had to dash off, overturning the tables in their haste and knocking down all the crockery."

The wreck lies in the crater of a live volcano 100 feet down. It came from the classical period which began with the establishment of Athenian democracy and ended with the death of Alexander the Great.

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of archaeology for Messina and Dr Umberto Spigo, from the Museum of Lipari, and the World Ship Trust.

All work is under the direction of Mr Mensun Bound, the director of archaeology at MARE, whose team has been excavating ancient wrecks in the

Mediterranean for eight years. The discovery was kept a secret for fear of looters, but the site has already been raided twice at night and, on one occasion, three intact pieces taken.

Mr Bound said: "These people are like vultures and it is possible that several hundred pieces have already been stolen. However, I believe this would have little effect on our understanding of the wreck because the items are repetitive." The site is patrolled by the police and coastguard, using a gun-boat and helicopter.

Mr Bound, who was born in the Falkland Islands, said the submerged volcano was near a rock called Dattilo, off the island of Panarea in the Aeolian Islands.

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WIN  
£112,000

Portfolio  
PLUS NEW  
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With one £4,000 daily prize winner yesterday, Portfolio Accumulator still stands at £112,000. Yesterday's winner, page 3. Portfolio list, page 33.

THE BUDGET



Tomorrow in The Times: an eight-page supplement will give unmatched coverage of the Budget, with details of all tax and National Insurance changes, analysis of their implications by the Times team of specialists, and the Chancellor's speech in full.

Today: a graphic guide to the Budget speech and how to follow it. Page 11.

IN PART 2  
Racing festival

The three-day festival at Cheltenham, the most important National Hunt meeting, begins today. Pages 44-45.

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Three killed by runaway vehicle

A pregnant woman and her twin sons were killed yesterday when a runaway Land-Rover in which the driver had died at the wheel ploughed into them in a street in Oxford. A third child was injured.

The driver of the Land-Rover, Mr Brian Price, aged 54, a self-employed engineer, of Bowness Avenue, Headington, Oxford, is believed to have had a heart attack.

The accident happened as the woman was taking her sons, aged five, and daughter, aged six, to school in Cowley Road. The vehicle swerved across the road and on to the pavement.

Mr Ken Dawes, assistant divisional ambulance officer, said: "The little boys were lying side by side and had been killed instantly". The mother died later from head injuries in the John Radcliffe Hospital. The daughter had severe leg injuries. They have not been named.

## Blow to Black Dyke

The Black Dyke Mills Band has failed to qualify for the British national brass band finals for the first time in twenty years.

The band, which will defend its European championship in Lucerne next month, came sixth in the Yorkshire regional qualifying contest for the national title.

Black Dyke, from Queensbury, near Bradford, scored 189 points out of a possible 200 at the Bradford qualifier, way behind the winners, IMI Yorkshire Imperial (198 points), who will be joined by Brighouse and Rastrick (196) in the finals at the Albert Hall in October.

Black Dyke was barred from the national finals in 1978 because they won the three previous competitions.

## Award for £5 Master jail work

A prison officer who runs an aviary in Saughton Prison, Edinburgh, supplying budgerigars to old age pensioners and to hospitals, received a Butler Trust award from the Princess Royal, its patron, yesterday.

Mr Richard McLean also helped to establish a library of more than 10,000 books in the jail. It is the largest prison library in Scotland.

An electronic workshop organized by Mr McLean undertakes free repairs for charities. The Butler Trust rewards outstanding work in connection with the prison service.

## £34,000 paid for shed

A garden shed on just under half an acre at Westerham, Kent, was sold for £34,000 at auction yesterday, well above its expected price of £20,000.

Mr Ken Herbert, the new owner, said: "I have paid so much because there is development there. I will try and get planning permission and go from there." The auctioneers, Prudential Property Services, said the plot of 0.4 acres would be worth at least £60,000 with planning permission.

A Victorian fortress, Fort Luton, which stands in four acres in the middle of Chatham, Kent, and has underground tunnels, gun platforms and ammunition store rooms and a moat, sold at the same auction in West Malling, Kent, for £145,000 (guide price £10,000).

## Returning Land-Rover workers defy pickets

By Roland Radd and Craig Seton

Land-Rover said yesterday that the three-week long strike at its assembly plant at Solihull, West Midlands, was beginning to crumble after claiming that 50 of its 6,000 manual workers had defied a mass picket to return to work.

The company said more employees were expected to defy the strike during the week. The number returning to work yesterday compared with only 15 last week.

A spokesman said: "It now appears that the only way this strike will end is by our employees coming back to work to join those already here".

Although 66 per cent of workers voted for strike action in a secret ballot five weeks ago, the manage-

ment maintains that union leaders have rejected growing calls for a mass meeting or a second ballot on what was now clearly the company's final offer.

Last week about 300 manual workers attended a "return to work" meeting in a Solihull park and it had been expected that many of them would try to break the strike yesterday.

The company is considering applying for an injunction against the transport union after management claims that the union broke an agreement prohibiting large numbers of pickets intimidating employees returning to work.

The company made clear its anger at Mr Sam Robinson, the Transport and General Workers' Union's district officer, after the

employees returning to work yesterday had to walk past 100 jeering strikers, despite a pledge that no more than six pickets would be on duty.

Mr Robinson had recently written to Land-Rover assuring the company that workers "seeking to return to work will not be obstructed, intimidated or interfered with in any way".

A company spokesman said: "Today's events show that Mr Robinson has broken his agreement. It appears he either has no control or authority over his members, or that he has deliberately broken his guarantee, and therefore his word in this matter is worthless."

Land-Rover is now reviewing the situation and is expected to take

legal action against the union if the pickets are not reduced.

Mr Robinson said he was "astounded by the company's action". He accused it of trying to "castigate" his reputation as a full-time union official by releasing the contents of a private letter to encourage a drift back to work.

"This is not a realistic commercial prospect. The company needs the whole of the workforce to return to work, which will only happen once they agree to negotiate."

The strike, which is costing the company £3 million a day in lost production, is in its fourth week. Land-Rover has offered what management maintains is a 14 per cent deal spread over two years, but union leaders say it only amounts to 8 per cent in new money.

● Nissan is to set up a design and engineering centre in Britain to develop future models specifically for European drivers. The centre, expected to be operational by the end of this year, will style and engineer models for both the Sunderland plant, now assembling the Bluebird and later the Micra models, and Nissan's Spanish plant, where vans and the Patrol four-wheel drive vehicle are made.

The planned centre was announced in Tokyo by Nissan's president, Mr Yutaka Kume, on the eve of a visit by Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. It marks another step in Nissan's plan to become an integrated car manufacturer in Europe as are Ford and General Motors.

## Plan to save £10m is revealed on day of action for NHS

## Health area may halt routine operations

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A health authority in London plans to cancel routine operations at all its hospitals, including two top teaching hospitals, to try to save £10 million.

Bloomsbury health authority in central London will vote tomorrow on whether to stop all non-urgent admissions immediately and confine surgery to emergency and urgent admissions.

If the plan put forward by the district management team is agreed, waiting lists for operations such as hip replacements and cataract removals will soar in a district which has one of the highest waiting lists in the country. The ban on certain operations will apply to two of the London's senior teaching hospitals, University College and the Middlesex.

Mr Alasdair Liddell, Bloomsbury district general manager, said last night that the health authority faced a £10 million budget deficit due to over-spending in this financial year, a forecast over-spending next year, and commitments to make certain one-off projects recurrent.

The authority will also be voting on whether to close the accident and emergency unit at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, west London.

Mr Liddell said that the decision to cancel all routine admissions would be re-assessed on April 21. A further proposal to close the Royal Ear Hospital with 53 beds is likely to be put to this meet-

ing. St Paul's Hospital, with 35 beds, may also be under threat.

"We have big budget problems. We have two proposals for immediate implementation and others for longer term consultation. The authority now has to realise there is no cavalry coming over the hill", he said.

The move to restrict operations was revealed as thousands of health workers, including nurses, supported protest action throughout the country in support of more spending for the National Health Service.

Although strike action was limited to about 15 hospitals in London and a handful throughout the country in some areas operations were cancelled due to lack of staff.

More operations will be cancelled today as nurses at more London hospitals take action. The London Hospital in Whitechapel has had to cancel about 70 major operations such as kidney transplant and open heart surgery because of the planned action, although emergency operations will go ahead.

Health service unions said about 500 Naps and Cohse nurses took strike action in London yesterday. The worst hit hospitals were Charing Cross, West London, St George's Hospital, Tooting and Greenwich district hospital, although emergency cover was provided.

Nurses also took strike action at St James's Hospital in



A nurse protests during the march in London yesterday (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

## Work equality

## Blacks 'still face work bar'

By Roland Radd

Jobs are often harder for black people to find than they were 20 years ago, when the first Race Relations Act was passed, a report says.

In spite of legislation and campaigns to improve the position, the Runnymede Trust, an educational charity on race relations, says that blacks have not made a breakthrough into the mainstream of economic life.

In the trust's report, out today, Miss Elizabeth Burns, its author, argues that, if the relative employment position of racial minorities is to be transformed a policy of positive action needs to be introduced immediately.

"The long-term aim, to change attitudes, cannot be enforced but can be made more attainable once minorities begin to prosper. Positive action can help minorities occupy roles where they are seen to be fully valid members of society at every level and in every sphere."

The report concedes that the dire employment situation generally, which deteriorated throughout the first 10 years of the Race Relations Act, 1976, did not create many opportunities to introduce positive action.

The report says: "Politicians have been acting with extreme caution because they fear a white backlash. Governments feel safer targeting depressed areas rather than people from racial minorities within them."

The upturn in the economy

offers "a precious opportunity" to introduce a programme of positive action which could also help to combat the skill shortage.

The Department of Employment said: "The Government is resolutely against unfair discrimination in any form and is fully committed to policies for equal opportunity in the work of this department and in the Manpower Services Commission."

The Commission for Racial Equality said the report underlined its own findings that it

was twice as hard for black people to get jobs as it was for whites.

The Trades Union Congress welcomed the Runnymede report. It shared the concerns and called on the Government to "toughen the existing race relations legislation to encourage employers to introduce positive action programmes."

Steps to racial equality: positive action in a negative climate, by Elizabeth Burns. (The Runnymede Trust, 178 North Gower Street, London, NW1 2NB; £1.95 plus 25p postage).

## Women's court battle over ruling on job

Eleven women seeking equal pay for work of equal value yesterday launched a test case in the Court of Appeal.

The women, who have clerical and administrative jobs with H and J Quick, Ford dealers of Manchester, claim that the method used in a job evaluation study for the company discriminated against them and failed to comply with the Equal Pay Act, 1976.

The method was used by the company to defeat a claim by the women that they were entitled to equal pay with men shop floor workers.

The women are appealing against an employment appeal tribunal decision last year which upheld an industrial tribunal ruling dismissing their claim.

Mr Anthony Lester, QC, their counsel, told the court that the case was of general importance because it was the first time the Court of Appeal had been asked to rule on the way evaluation studies were carried out.

Mr Lester said the women argued that by failing to analyse their jobs and those of the shop floor workers under a number of headings in terms of the demands made by the work, the study completely failed to evaluate the jobs.

Instead, the study had looked at the jobs as a whole and ranked them according to what was felt fair by members of the assessment panel.

The hearing continues today.

## Churches rebuked over sales

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Editor

Churches with surplus buildings sometimes used unfair tactics in their dealings with other denominations looking for somewhere to rent or buy, according to a report by the British Council of Churches, published yesterday.

Other denominations complained they were treated as if they were small businessmen rather than as fellow Christians. Lack of mutual help, particularly from established Christian denominations, compared unfavourably with the way in which Muslim groups helped each other, the report said.

The complaints included big rent increases and improper pressure to force up the price by threatening to allow another potential tenant or purchaser to "gazump" the agreement.

However, the record of the Church of England, the main source of surplus church buildings, was described as "impressive". The report listed alternative uses for nearly 600 redundant Anglican church buildings, 83 of which were transferred to other denominations.

Of these, churches for black people took more than 28, the Roman Catholic church 19 and orthodox churches 22. Most were sold or leased for less than £10,000, while eight fetched more than £50,000.

The report said some buildings were transferred between denominations without a formal agreement, which led to difficulties when ministers who made the original agreement left or when churches which owned premises wanted to put them on the market.

## Young Conservatives

## Appeal for a halt to feuding

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Senior Conservative Party officials are to urge the leaders of the warring factions in the party's youth wing to end their bitter and politically damaging feuding.

Mr Martin Woodroffe, the newly elected moderate chairman of the Young Conservatives, and Mr Andrew Tinnay, the defeated right wing candidate, have been summoned to Conservative Central Office tomorrow by Mr Peter Morrison, the deputy party chairman.

He will tell them that in the interests of party unity they should put their differences behind them and channel their energies into the battle with the Labour Party.

A direct threat to disband

the organization unless it mends its ways is highly unlikely but, with the memory of the summary dispatch of the Federation of Conservative Students still fresh in the minds of many Young Conservatives, Mr Morrison hardly needs to back up his pep talk with blunt warnings.

Instead, he is expected to ask Mr Woodroffe to adopt a less sectarian approach in his dealings with the right, while appealing to Mr Tinnay not to press his allegations that the recent chairmanship election was marred by ballot-rigging and intimidation.

But sources close to the two camps predicted yesterday that whatever the public posture adopted by the rival

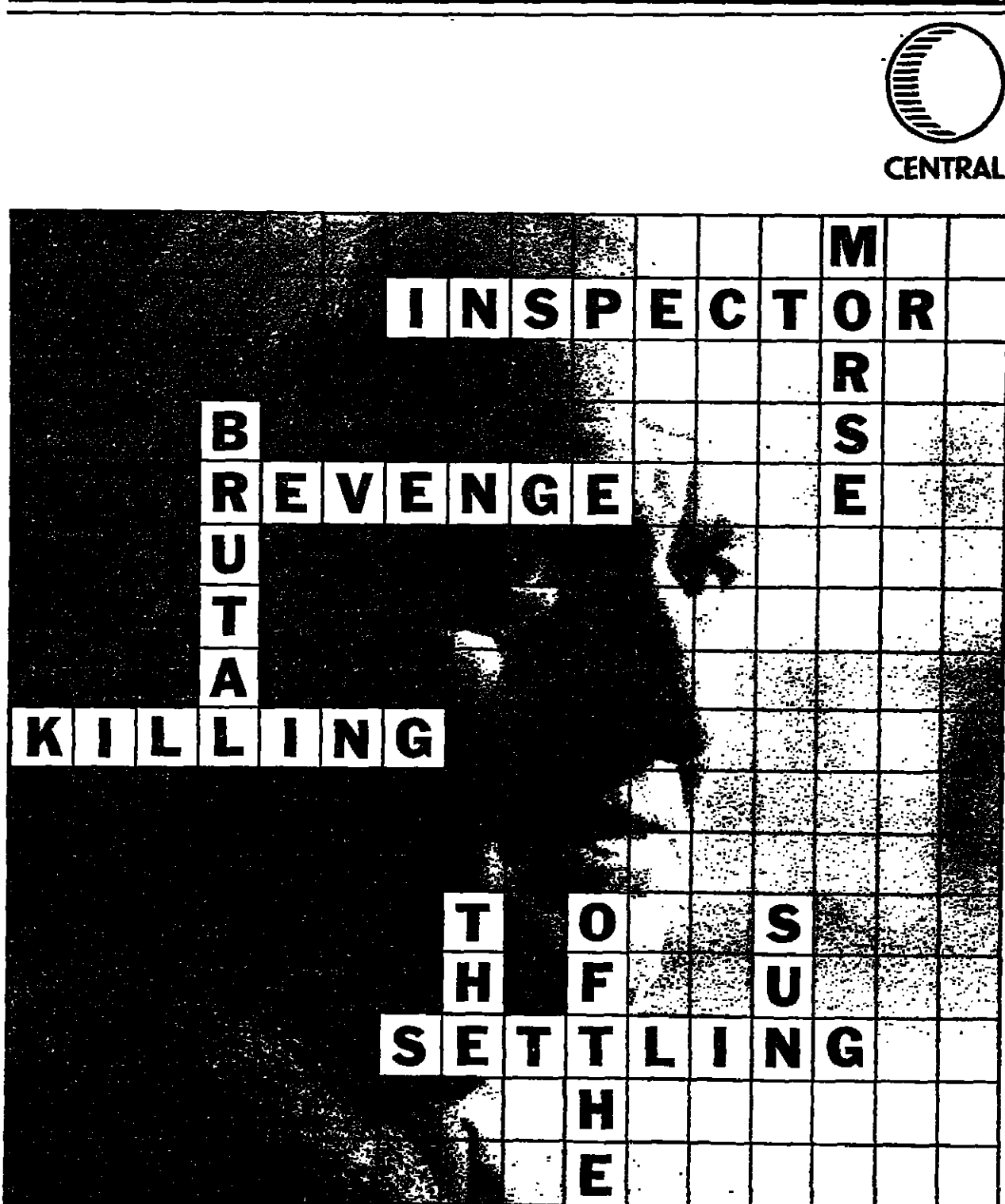
leaders, the infighting would continue.

Mr Tinnay has redoubled his efforts to persuade the party hierarchy to take seriously his claims of electoral malpractice.

The right wing camp has sent a document accusing Central Office officials of siding with the moderates to senior staff at party headquarters and 10 Downing Street.

Sir Peter Lane, chairman of the National Union executive committee, is setting up a working party, which will include Mr Woodroffe and Mr Tinnay, to review the Young Conservatives' electoral rules and procedures.

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## Public school sued after rugby tackle leaves boy crippled

A public school was yesterday sued for damages by a former pupil who suffered a crippling spinal injury during a house rugby match.

Mr Simon Richard Van Oppen, now aged 23, claimed in a High Court test case that the administrators of Bedford School, Bedford, were responsible for his injuries.

Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith, QC, told Mr Justice Boreham that Mr Van Oppen's spine was severely fractured while he was trying to make a head-on tackle during a game in November 1980, when he was aged 16.

It was claimed that the school was negligent by not instructing Mr Van Oppen properly, especially in head-on tackling techniques, and not insuring pupils against injury. The school denies liability.

Mr Wilson-Smith said Mr Van Oppen, whose family home is at Monmouth Hill, Topham, Exeter, Devon, was playing centre. He was 5ft 7in and was tackling a 6ft opponent when he was injured.

The two players met at "considerable speed" as Mr Van Oppen attempted a flying tackle and hit his head on his opponent's thigh. Mr Van Oppen "dropped instantly" and his opponent was also hurt.

Mr Van Oppen, now a student at Kingston Polytechnic, south-west London, was initially paralysed in all

limbs. Now he is an "incomplete tetraplegic", suffering from weakness in his left arm and both legs and needing a stick to walk. He had intended to make a career in the Royal Navy.

Mr Wilson-Smith said Mr Van Oppen had not realized that the tackle he attempted was "fraught with danger". His opponent, a boy called Grant, was someone other boys "did not relish tackling".

"It was a very courageous decision to take on the tackle at all. Many boys would have flunked out," it was not Mr Van Oppen's contention that rugby, played and coached properly, was a bad sport for schoolboys. He was merely critical of the way rugby was played at Bedford, a school with a proud rugby tradition.

"It is crucial that boys at school are aware that if they do not play the game properly they run the risk of serious injury. And, very importantly, boys must be taught the correct position in which to place their heads when tackling," Mr Wilson-Smith said.

Mr Van Oppen had received some coaching at his preparatory school, the Cathedral School in Exeter, where he was first team captain, but he was not instructed at Bedford, where rugby was compulsory for all boys. The school assumed he knew how to play, which it was not entitled to do.

School team players at Bedford received "excellent" coaching. But for pupils who did not make the school teams, yet still had to play in house matches, "instruction was noted by its absence", Mr Wilson-Smith said.

Mr Van Oppen had played mainly in house matches. Mr Wilson-Smith said the lack of adequate instruction was illustrated by the experience of another pupil, known as Donny. He went on to the pitch, not knowing that the ball could not be passed forward, and grabbed an opponent around the neck, causing an arm to be broken.

Mr Wilson-Smith alleged that Bedford School was negligent in failing to take out insurance for rugby playing pupils before the accident, as other schools did. A report published in 1979 by school medical officers said that insurance cover was urgently needed and could be easily obtained at that time for £1.50 per term per child.

The scheme eventually adopted by Bedford would have given Mr Van Oppen about £60,000 had it been in operation. Mr Wilson-Smith said the school had advised parents that it was considering introducing an accident insurance scheme before the accident, but failed to pass on the full extent of its knowledge about the dangers.

The hearing continues today. Mr Wilson-Smith said the school had advised parents that it was considering introducing an accident insurance scheme before the accident, but failed to pass on the full extent of its knowledge about the dangers.

The hearing continues today.

## Treasures of the deep



Top: Mr Tom Cockrell, a diver with the Oxford University team excavating an ancient Greek ship off the northern coast of Sicily, pulling out pottery from the live volcano in which the wreck rests; above: a selection of the black glazed fine ware already recovered.

## Error in family law over access

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Government officials admitted yesterday that a new law which sweeps away the legal disadvantages for children born illegitimate fails to conform with changes required by the Government as a result of a ruling in the European Court of Human Rights.

As the Lord Chancellor took steps yesterday to bring sections of the new law, the Family Reform Act 1987, into force on April 4 by laying a commencement order, one of his officials confirmed there was a defect in the drafting of the Act.

The Act, among other reforms, is intended to give unmarried fathers of children in care the right to challenge a local authority decision to refuse them access.

But the drafting mistake, contained in part two of the Act which is not due to come into force until 1988, means that unmarried fathers are still excluded.

The section was handled by the Department of Health and Social Security officials but it seems that the mistake occurred at the drafting stage.

As the relevant section does not come into force until 1989, it is likely that the error will be put right, probably in the next session's expected child care legislation.

The sections of the Act which come into force on April 4 will remove the disadvantages of children born outside wedlock. In particular, illegitimacy will no longer be a bar to inheritance rights.

Two unmarried fathers whose children are in care are seeking leave to appeal to the House of Lords in an attempt to challenge the local authority's denial of access.

The Court of Appeal has ruled in both cases that it cannot interfere with the local authority's statutory powers over children.

## Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Banker to put money into house

An assistant bank manager from Scotland is the sole winner of the £4,000 Portfolio prize. He plans to spend the money on home improvements.

Mr Fraser Galloway, aged 52, of Gladstone Road, Huntly, Grampian, has been entering the competition regularly for the past few years.

His wife, Mrs Margaret Galloway, said: "We plan to spend it on some house repairs and when we have done that we will decide to spend a little on ourselves, but we have not really thought about it yet."

## Allotment 'raider shot by pensioner'

A pensioner who slept in an allotment shed every night for three years to protect it from vandals shot a man who tried to break into the hut, magistrates at Ilkeston, Derbyshire, were told yesterday.

William Newberry, aged 76, of Greenwood Road, Ilkeston, fired a shotgun through a boarded door on the allotment he had tended since 1945, the court was told. Mark Revell, aged 24, one of two men alleged to have tried to batter their way into the shed early on Saturday, was shot in the arm and side.

Mr Newberry was charged with unlawfully and maliciously wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm and remanded on unconditional bail until April 28. The court was told Mr Revell, of Erewash Square, Ilkeston, and a man named Grainger were intending to steal a mechanical garden digger.

At a separate hearing, Trevor John Grainger, aged 36, unemployed, of Graham Street, Ilkeston, was remanded in custody for seven days on three charges.

## Child's £500,000 damages

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

More than £1 million in damages was awarded in the High Court yesterday to the victims of three separate accidents.

The high awards, one of £500,000 to a boy aged eight for a hospital blunder which left him with the intelligence of a six-month-old child for the rest of his life, will fuel pressure for reform of the system of damages awards so that compensation can be paid automatically without establishing fault.

Surrey Area Health Authority admitted that its failure to take proper care during the birth of Peter Browne was responsible for brain damage.

Mr David Barker, QC, the boy's counsel, told Mr Justice Pill how at or during the birth at Frimley Park Hospital, Frimley, in 1980 the child's brain was starved of oxygen.

Doctors believe he will die by the age of 35. Mr Richard

Browne and his wife, Marilyn, want their son to spend the rest of his life with them.

They intend to move from Southbrook Close, Langstone, Hampshire, to a property adapted for their son who has been in a special home.

The judge ordered that £19,550 of the award be paid to Mrs Browne, aged 41, for the past care of her son.

In a second case, a family whose lives were shattered by a motorway crash won £527,000 damages.

Mr Denis Kancir and his wife, Edna, of Springhead Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire, and their daughter, Julie, were sitting waiting for help on the hard shoulder of the M11 when another car smashed into them.

The accident in September 1983 left Mrs Kancir, aged 55, paralysed and confined to a wheelchair for the rest of her

life. She is to receive £387,000.

Her husband, aged 61, who receives £95,000, suffered spinal injuries. The couple used to run a restaurant.

Their daughter, aged 30, who has just given birth, had head, leg and pelvic injuries and suffered a severe emotional reaction to the accident. She receives £295,000.

In another case a polytechnic student who was expected to become an engineer before a car crash left him brain-damaged, won £225,000.

Mr Paul Williams, aged 25, will never manage more than manual work. He was a passenger in a Volkswagen car when it was in collision with a lorry in January 1983. The accident left him with limited learning ability.

Mr Williams, of Hexham, Northumberland, works as a labourer.

## Furniture store fire exits blocked, checks find

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Spot checks on furniture stores, prompted by a spate of deaths caused by foam-filled furniture, found fire exits blocked by furniture, unmarked doors, tortuous escape routes and missing or unreadable direction signs.

The National Federation of Consumer Groups, which checked on 32 stores in eight towns last month, yesterday called for better escape routes. It said: "Only half the stores we visited had any signs at all and four of these were considered poor."

Emergency exit doors were blocked with bunk beds in the Queensway store at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, by a sofa at Waring and Gillow, Tyneside, by a wardrobe, table and chairs at Vineys Furniture Gallery, Abingdon and by a furniture display at Gillows, Bromley and Jenners, Edinburgh.

The report says probably the worst case was at House of Fraser (DH Evans) in Oxford Street, central London, where the furniture department is on the fifth floor. One emergency exit was partially blocked by stacked furniture and another by a step ladder and a steel trolley. The

ground floor exit from one of the emergency stairs was obstructed by three tall step ladders.

Ten stores had tortuous escape routes through offices, stockrooms or displays of furniture. The federation says that although it might have been expected that reports of foam-filled furniture fires and the King's Cross disaster might have led stores to tighten up fire procedures, "our check showed that there is a degree of sloppiness and complacency as well as far too much reliance on the intelligence and good sense of the general public in an emergency".

The federation urges stores to use white on green colours for fire signs, to mark exit doors, keep fire doors clear of furniture and to ban smoking.

Liberty's in London and Nortons in Loughborough, Leicestershire, were praised for carrying clear markings that furniture contained foam. Habitat at Oxford was commended for its fire exit indications.

The report and recommendations are to be sent to the Home Office which is drafting a code of practice covering fire safety in stores, expected to come into force in the autumn.

## Libel case doctor faces GMC

## Slimming expert accused over drugs

A Harley Street slimming expert prescribed potent slimming drugs for patients ignoring "common sense", a disciplinary hearing was told yesterday.

Dr Sidney Gee, aged 67, allegedly failed adequately to examine patients, or consult their general practitioners before handing out the powerful thyroid drugs.

Dr Gee, who is in the Guinness Book of Records after being awarded damages over BBC allegations about his obesity treatment, is also accused of failing to help his patients when they reported harmful effects of the drugs.

Mr Vivian Robinson, QC, for the General Medical Council, told its professional conduct committee that the allegation arose from Dr Gee's treatment of obesity cases.

"In each case the doctor

embarked upon a course of treatment which involved the supply of potent drugs repeatedly over extensive periods.

"The supply of drugs and particularly potent drugs carries with it obligations which we say are based upon common sense and good medical practices.

"It's as a result of Dr Gee failing to do this that he faces these allegations.

"It was incumbent on him in every case to consult the patient's GP. This would be seen as a matter of common sense by the general public."

He said one patient, Mrs Elizabeth Day, aged 49, was given slimming pills after an injection to break down fat tissues. She was not told what the pills were for or what the likely side effects were.

"Later she complained to Dr Gee she was suffering from

a dry mouth, and nausea. He just told her to stop taking the brown pills for three days."

But Mrs Day, of Binfield, Berkshire, went to her GP, who immediately referred her to a hospital specialist.

Mr Robinson said: "When Mrs Day was told to stop taking the tablets after a thyroxine test which showed her to be well above the normal limit, she telephoned Dr Gee."

"He told her not to take any further tests for three weeks because everything was in her system. He then abruptly ended the call by putting the telephone down."

He added: "This was a pattern followed with seven other patients."

He said that although there might be "strong criticism" of Dr Gee's treatment for obesity it was not in this inquiry's scope to consider it.

Dr Gee, of Chester Close North, Regents Park, north-west London, is accused of abusing his professional position between June 1982 and July 1983 by supplying drugs to patients without adequately examining them, or their medical history.

It is further alleged he prescribed the drugs without consulting their GPs, not notifying their doctors of the drugs supplied, not making adequate inquiries about the effects of his treatment or not offering appropriate advice when patients reported harmful effects.

Mr Gee, who won £100,007 from the BBC in his libel action and later £25,000 each from the Daily Express and News of the World, denies serious professional misconduct.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

## Preacher is jailed for life

A preacher who bludgeoned a rival in love to death was jailed for life yesterday.

Sentencing Wilf Glew, aged 47, at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, Judge Drake told him: "This was not only a brutal murder but one committed by someone who has a strange personality."

The court was told that Glew, a preacher at the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Garston, Hertfordshire, had taken a troubled young woman under his wing.

Glew, of Orchard Avenue, Watford, convinced Debbie Richards, aged 23, she could show her love for God by having sexual intercourse with him. This happened after their prayer meetings.

Miss Richards ended the relationship and became engaged to another church member, Mr Richard Clement, aged 31.

Glew lured Mr Clement to his garden shed on the pretext that he had some camping equipment to give him. He battered him to death and hid the body in a lock-up shed near by.

## Detective killed himself after threatening friend

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

A Scotland Yard detective constable who was questioned in an internal police inquiry threatened to kill a fellow detective and then shot himself, an inquest was told yesterday.

A few days after the threat, the detective, Alan Holmes, aged 44, had gone into the garden of his home at Shirley, south London, and turned a shotgun on himself.

Dr William Dolman, the coroner, who recorded a verdict of suicide, said the officer's mind must have been in "turmoil". There were "worries about his family and his life as a policeman. He lived for the police force and was worried about his future."

The inquest at Croydon, south London, was told that the threat to kill the detective, a personal friend, was made after Mr Holmes became upset at being questioned. He had also been stopped by police officers outside the home of his mistress. She was taken to a police station and Mr Holmes was sent home.

In a note left for his wife, Lee, Mr Holmes said: "I

would never have left you except someone gave me comfort. You have time enough to enjoy yourself now without fear or worry about me and the police. I love the police and never did them an ounce of harm."

The name of the department which questioned Mr Holmes was not given publicly to the inquest. However, Scotland Yard said after his death that he had been interviewed by members of the Complaints Investigation Branch investigating allegations against a senior officer.

The inquest was told that no allegations had been made against Mr Holmes and his colleagues had criticized his treatment by CIB officers. He was said to have been angry at the way a colleague had implicated him in a CIB inquiry.

Scotland Yard, which agreed to burial with full police honours, said last night that an investigation by Commander Thelma Wagstaff into the death and the CIB handling of the case had not been completed.

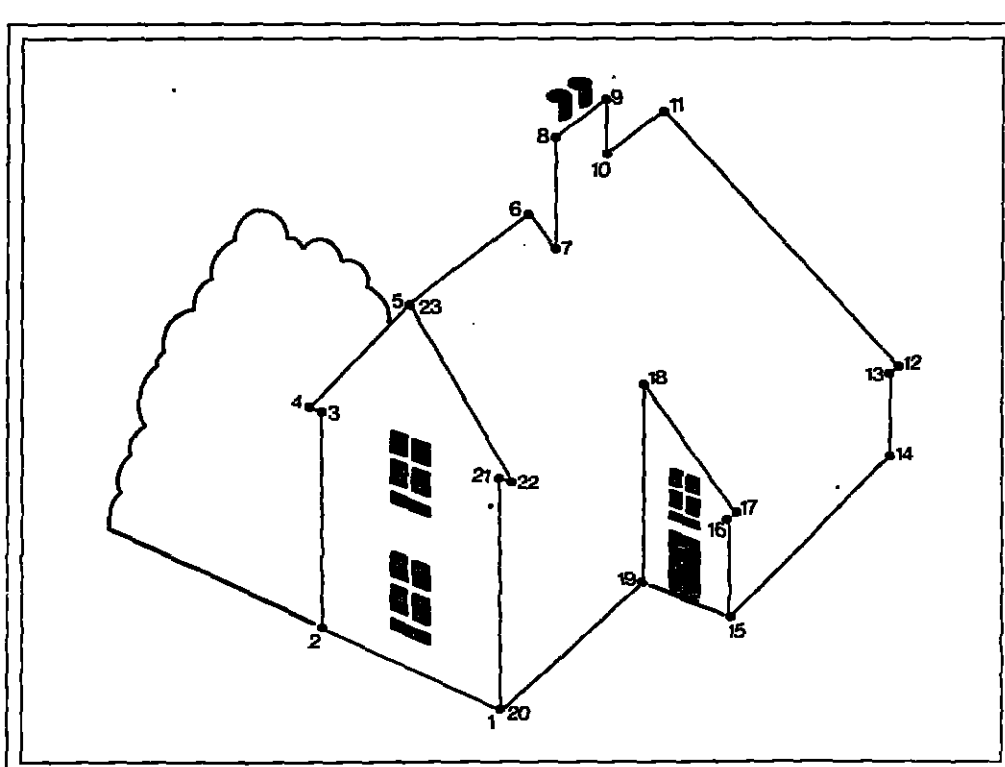
Miss Wagstaff told Dr Dol-

man that the detective gave the impression that he could cope with stress and pressure. She said: "He had a propensity for involving himself in other people's affairs and also perhaps misguided loyalties... understandable because of his love of the police force."

Det Sergeant John Davidson, who worked with Mr Holmes, told the inquest that he had been worried about "events to do with the police but not his normal work" for several weeks before his death. Five days before he died Mr Holmes had spent the day being interviewed by detectives.

Sergeant Davidson said Mr Holmes was "very upset". He said he was going to kill a colleague and shoot himself. He felt his friend had let him down and told lies about him.

Mr Holmes, a former member of the flying squad, was regarded by colleagues as a seasoned detective. He was part of the special task force set up to investigate the aftermath of the £26 million Brink's-Mat robbery.



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March 14 1988

# PARLIAMENT

## Dobson onslaught on 'Scrooge-like' Government

The Government had introduced a guillotine on the Social Security Bill to get its Scrooge-like proposals through, late at night, when it would be too late for many newspapers to report it, Mr Frank Dobson, Opposition spokesman on Commons affairs, said.

He was speaking in the Commons on the proposal to place a timetable on the Lords amendments to the Bill.

He said that the Government did not want the public to see the contrast between the way it treated the badly-off on Monday with how it intended to treat the well-off on Budget day.

"When the people of this country see film of the yuppies celebrating their tax concessions after tomorrow's Budget, the champagne will have been paid for out of the money which should be spent on giving the poor children a decent midday meal. And this is the Government which claims to promote family life and Christian values."

Mr Ronald Fearn, the SLD spokesman said that the Bill would push some young people into unacceptable poverty. Many young people would have no alternative but to live by begging, petty theft, debt or prostitution.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said that the Bill had to be enacted soon so that new regulations could be brought before Parliament in time to be implemented by April 11.

He was moving the timetable motion, providing for six hours

### GUILLOTINE

of proceedings to deal with Lords amendments to the Social Security Bill and the timetable motion itself.

Mr Wakeham said that it was quite usual for Lords amendments to a Bill to be taken in the Commons just a day or so after the measure had left the Lords.

The Commons had already agreed that April 11 should be the date on which the new amendments of income support and family credit should be implemented, but because of the proposals in the Bill, further regulations, subject to affirmative resolution, would be needed.

They could be laid only after Royal Assent was necessary to ensure a proper opportunity for them to be considered by the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments before they were debated in both Houses, so it was important to proceed today with the measure.

The motion provided a generous amount of time. Many of the Lords amendments were technical and uncontroversial, and the Government was not trying to reverse or amend the amendments providing for an annual review of child benefit.

In total, the Bill had received just over 90 hours of consideration in both Houses, including 19 sittings in standing committee.

Mr Dobson said that the reason for the Government's introducing the guillotine was simple. Large parts of the present Bill were to correct errors in the Social Security Act, 1986, much of which was to

come into operation next month. So the Government was desperate for the changes to go through before then.

"So, not for the first time, we find ourselves in Westminster assembled to apply large dollops of parliamentary correcting fluid, legislative Tipp-Ex."

The Government had been anxious to push through proposals which would take from the poor and give to the rich, late at night when it would be too late for many of the newspapers to report it.

The Prime Minister had recently preached about Budget day being about taking and not about giving. The Bill was certainly about taking away rather than giving.

It took away existing rights of people in need, rights they had got through paying taxes and national insurance, rights secured in courts but denied them by mean-minded ministers and the humiliating bureaucratic machinery of the Department of Health and Social Security. It was nothing less than legislative theft.

Among the groups that would suffer most would be the police and fire fighters. Those same people who the Prime Minister and ministers had been so ready to praise in front of the television are lights were now to be stabbed in the back.

About 500,000 of the poorest children in the country would no longer be able to get free school meals. Instead, where families were on Family Income Support, there would be a payment of £2.55 a week in lieu of the school meals.

That 51p a day would buy a primary school meal in just nine education authorities throughout



Mr John Wakeham (left), Mr Ronald Fearn and Mr Frank Dobson, who clashed on the guillotine motion yesterday

the country, all of them Labour-controlled.

If the cash was concentrated into the periods of term time, that would still amount to only 66p a meal and there were dozens of education authority areas where that would not buy a primary school meal.

The Government was quick to talk of targeting benefits, but the best way of targeting school meals into the stomachs of the poorest children was to put the food in their mouths to start with.

"When the people of this country see film of the yuppies celebrating their tax concessions after tomorrow's Budget, the champagne will have been paid for out of the money which should be spent on giving the poor children a decent mid-day meal. And this is the Government which claims to promote family life and Christian values."

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Perth and Kinross, C) said that the matter had already been discussed through the usual channels and it was extraordinary it had not been challenged by the Opposition before.

Mr Ronald Fearn, SLD spokesman on social security, said that the third reading of the Bill took place in the Lords on Wednesday and the amendments had been published on Friday. That did not allow even two working days before this debate.

The powers of Parliament had been eroded by this Government and this was one of the worst examples of its cavalier attitude. The Government had deliberately set out to frustrate Opposition attempts to analyse and amend the legislation.

This was an extremely important Bill which would push some young people into unacceptable poverty. There would be juvenile destitution on

a scale not seen since Victorian times. Many young people would have no alternative but to live by begging, petty theft, debt or prostitution.

The Bill would unfairly penalize young people, force them into dependence on their parents or onto YTS schemes that might not be satisfactory.

Young people who might leave the family home to escape child abuse or domestic violence might still be able to claim income support, at the discretion of the Secretary of State, but they might be too distressed or too immature to be able to do so.

Charities were extremely worried about the removal of benefit from 16 and 17-year-olds. Refugees would have no alternative but to turn young people on to the streets when they could not claim income support.

There would be a considerable amount of frustration

and anger when young people discovered that they would be expected to live on less money than people perhaps only days older. They would simply not understand the reason for that because there was no good reason.

He was not surprised that there were plans to install screens of toughened glass in DHSS offices. "The frustration will sometimes manifest itself in violence and I am concerned for the DHSS employees, who may have to bear the brunt of that anger."

It had been estimated that some young people would have only £5.20 a week to live on for food and clothes. "That is an absolute disgrace to a civilized society."

The Social Fund would hit the poorest in society the hardest. "That the Government can do this and claim to have a clear conscience frankly amazes me."

## Minister and the red light

"If you can afford a car telephone, you can afford a hand-free microphone. It is not safe to hold a telephone when driving," Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said during questions.

Mr David Amess (Basilston, C) said that concern had been expressed about the use of the telephone while driving.

Mr Bottomley said that he was satisfied with the present law, but repeated that the Highway Code emphasized that motorists should not hold a car telephone while driving.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) asked if the minister had evidence of accidents having been caused by drivers using a telephone?

Mr Bottomley said that he was being taken in a BBC radio taxi to an interview in Guildford once when the taxi drove through a red light while talking into a telephone.

## MPs emphasize their impatience Both sides in call for family courts

MPs on both side of the House urged the Government to speed up moves to establish family courts and expressed impatience at the lack of progress on the subject. One Conservative backbencher complained at MPs having to come back "year after year" with the same questions on this important subject.

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C) said that many individuals and organizations had gone to a great deal of trouble to respond to the Government's consultative documents on family courts.

Lord Havers (the former Lord Chancellor) had seemed to indicate some sympathy for the idea.

But the tone of the statement by the present Lord Chancellor (Lord Mackay of Clashfern) in the February issue of *Family Law* suggested that he was now looking for all sorts of reasons not to proceed with family courts.

### MPs emphasize their impatience

## Both sides in call for family courts

### LAW OFFICERS



Sir Nicholas Lyall: MPs should take heart

Sir Nicholas Lyall, Solicitor General, said that he was not looking for all sorts of reasons not to proceed with family courts.

public and private, including nationalization of the remedies available and the reform of court procedures.

This objective is necessary in itself and provides an essential foundation for any reform of court structures. We get the law right first and then we can look to go to the courts structures.

Mr Donald Anderson (Swansea East, Lab) said that the long delays over the past 16 years were a sad commentary on the prospect of achieving legal reform of any significance in this country.

"Will he now get some steam behind this proposal since there is hardly any serious legal body opposed to it?"

Sir Nicholas: It is not steam that is needed. It is a bit of clear thinking. Child law and family law are in a great muddle in this area.

We intend to get child courts and family law right. We shall then have set the legal frame-

work against which to provide the court framework if that seems appropriate.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) asked if the Government's real thinking was that there was too much other legislation needed before the reform of family law. Some speedy action ought to be taken.

"We should not have to keep coming back here year after year asking the same questions on this very important subject."

Sir Nicholas replied that child court law was receiving high priority.

Mr Kenneth Hind (West Lancashire, C) said that there was widespread feeling on both sides of the House to support family courts. Would he bring pressure to bear upon the business managers of the House to bring in what many MPs felt was a long overdue reform?

Sir Nicholas said that Mr Hind should also take heart.

## Duty 'cannot be to ignore crime'

The Government had chosen to emphasize the duty of confidentiality to the grave as more important than the right of the public to know and the press to report on crime, fraud or the possibly muted cases of treason reported in Mr Peter Wright's book, *Spycatcher*, Mr Richard Shepherd (Aldridge-Brownhills, C) said at question time.

"You cannot enjoin any public servant to a lifelong duty of confidentiality to the grave without the caveat that it cannot be covering fraud, crime or possible treason. It is the interest of this House to know about those circumstances."

Sir Patrick Mayhew: There is considerable importance attached to the fact that former and serving members of the security services owe a duty. The question of whether that duty is owed in all circumstances is one that is before the courts at the moment.

We shall have to see what the

House of Lords says when the appeal comes before it [on June 7].

The first thing is to protect that duty because if we do not do so and if we are not prepared to pay the cost in money, it will not be very long before that cost is payable in lives as well as money.

Mr David Wisniewski (Walsall North, Lab) asked if the Attorney General thought it appropriate that, as senior law officer, he had sent out a propaganda letter to all Conservative MPs explaining the position on the *Spycatcher* case? That was not compatible with his position.

As for the money spent, at the end of the day, it would be millions of pounds wasted on this totally futile case.

Sir Patrick: It is entirely proper for the Government to communicate on the subject with its parliamentary supporters, as it does on any other subject.

## Number of assaults on bus crews down by 200

The number of assaults on London bus crews fell by 200 last year to 880, Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, said at question time. He apologized for the absence of Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, who had been delayed at an EEC meeting in Brussels.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) said that he was concerned at the number of assaults on the public, particularly on pay nights. Many elderly people and parents of small children were afraid to travel on public transport late at night.

More police officers, more surveillance, exemplary sentencing were needed to stamp out the violence on London Transport. "Something must be done."

Mr Mitchell said that the number of assaults on bus crews was down by more than 400 in 1985, but was still at an unacceptably high level. Vigorous steps were being taken.

London buses were fitted with assault kit boxes, which blew the horn and flashed the lights, many had two-way radios and video cameras. The increasing number of one-person-operated buses was reducing assaults.

Mr Hugo Summerson (Walthamstow, C) said that assaults on the Victoria Line were growing worse. Whatever measures necessary to protect the public must be taken, including video cameras on trains and platforms. More police officers should be provided on trains.

Mr Mitchell said that that was one of a number of things

### TRANSPORT

being done, including more radio equipment, video surveillance, more police recruitment and increased staff surveillance. "I am hopeful that these things will have a considerable impact."

Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said that violent incidents occurred as a direct consequence of staff reductions, particularly on the London Underground. What action was being taken to appoint more staff, especially for nights and weekends?

What was being done to make sure that the police operating underground had radios that worked underground because in many cases police radios be-

came wholly ineffective once they were underground?

Mr Mitchell said that the Government had given London Regional Transport £15 million in a three-year programme against crime. The problem of underground radios was particularly difficult. Extensive cable laying was required to enable radios to work.

The number of transport police had increased from 280 to 314 and was expected to rise to 350 by October.

Further matters raised during transport questions included: ● There had been a 25 per cent reduction in muggings on the southern end of the Northern Line of the London Underground where new policing methods had been used, Mr David Mitchell, Minister of

State for Transport, said during questions.

He would be meeting the Chief Constable of the British Transport Police and the chairman of London Underground before the end of the month to review progress.

Projects for Oxford Circus and eastern stations on the Central Line, to test improved equipment and tracks, would be inaugurated later this month.

He disagreed with Sir Geoffrey Fieberg (Harnessed and Highgate, C) who said that it was time that the Metropolitan Police took over the responsibilities of British Transport Police because most of us think they are pretty inefficient. ● London Underground guards are being retained to take over as drivers on the Northern Line,

Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, said during questions.

MPs from both sides of the chamber complained about failing standards of service on the Northern Line and called for increased investment in the line.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet, C) said that the Northern Line was an abomination.

Mr Mitchell said that London Transport accepted that the situation on the line was not as good as it or anyone else wanted.

An additional eight trains would be operating on the Northern Line next year, alongside an investment of £45 million over the next three years on station improvements, signalling and better communications.

## Wealth disclosure move defeated

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Attempts to force MPs and ministers to reveal their financial interests in far greater detail have been narrowly rejected by an all-party committee of MPs.

However, the Committee on Members' Interests has agreed to conduct an inquiry into political lobbying at Westminster. It believes that lobbying is becoming far more widespread and that MPs are increasingly exposed to conflicts of interest.

It intends to review the rules governing what MPs, journalists, secretaries and research assistants have to declare in their Registers of Interests and see whether they need tightening and redrafting.

On the casting vote of the chairman, Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, the committee rejected suggestions for a much more rigorous register put forward by the Labour MPs Mr Dale Campbell-Savours and Mr Tom Pender.

## Chancellor with new authority

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Mr Allen called for a serious reappraisal of the scope of the register so that it was made "up-to-date, accurate and respected". Recent legislation on privatizations had meant that MPs "have increasingly voted on legislation which could lead, and in some cases have led, to their personal gain", he said.

Mr Allen said MPs should have to declare the payment they receive for directorships, detail all shareholdings regardless of size, and details of sales or purchases, list Lloyd's syndicates of which they were members, name clients for whom they act and be made to complete the register or be declared from sitting. Ministers should have to declare the shareholdings they diverted into trusts when they were appointed.

At present, completion of the register is not compulsory, and the information asked for is broad rather than detailed. Select Committee on Members' Interests: Third Report (Stationery Office, £1.70).

## Diamond refuses to yield ground

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Lord Diamond, the former leader of the Social Democratic peers, refused to yield his privileged place in the House of Lords yesterday to the Social and Liberal Democrats.

He took up his customary seat in isolation despite plans by the SLD peers to take over his bench, relegating the remaining SLD peers to the back of the chamber or encourage them to shift to the independent cross benches.

The break-up of the Alliance has led to a grouping of 61 SLD peers who expect to occupy at least three benches, including the one previously reserved for SLD spokesmen, opposite the Government in the Upper House.



Geoffrey Smith

expert Chancellor since the war. Although Mr John Smith is generally regarded as a more formidable shadow Chancellor than Mr Hattersley, Mr Lawson continues to dominate the House of Commons on economic issues.

This has given him a new standing among Conservative MPs and clients in the Cabinet. Now that Mr Tebbit and Lord Whitelaw have left, he is one of the few ministers with the assurance to intervene in Cabinet across the whole range of issues - even if he does not yet have the same degree of influence as Lord Whitelaw.

"If Willie was against you", one minister remarked to me, "you know you had had it. It is against you, you know it will be difficult."

This new authority has not been enough, as we have seen, to protect Mr Lawson from being slapped down by the Prime Minister. But it should prevent his being seriously damaged in the process.

First of all, it cannot be assumed that this particular chapter has yet been closed. Mr Lawson's Budget speech will be a work of study in this as well as in so many other respects. I would not rush to the conclusion at this stage that Britain's exchange rate policy has been completely overturned.

Nor do I believe that Mr Lawson's career as Chancellor is likely to be brought to a sudden end. His reputation for expertise is too great for Mrs Thatcher to consider it wise to dispense with his services, even if she had any inclination to do so.

This is the continuation in effect of the long-running argument between them as to whether Britain should join the European Monetary System. It is a measure of the Prime Minister's personal authority that she has been able to defy both the Chancellor and the Foreign Secretary on this issue.

Perhaps Mr Lawson has been too clever by half in trying to behave as if Britain was in the balance as he actually joined EMS without actually joining. But a successful Chancellor does not lose too much by showing that he has a mind of his own. It seems to me most unlikely,

though, that he would demonstrate that he had such a mind of his own as to choose this time to go off into the City to make his fortune. That would look petulant and would be an unseemly end to an impressive political career.

Nor could he be moved across to become Foreign Secretary in the near future. There is no vacancy at this stage. But Mrs Thatcher may feel it necessary to move Sir Geoffrey Howe some time during this Parliament, in which case Mr Lawson would be a more serious contender than would have seemed possible a few years ago.

His style is no more conventionally diplomatic than it has ever been, but his intellectual grasp is beyond question and in the past his lack of true popular appeal would not matter.

It would, however, make him an improbable successor to Mrs Thatcher. His political sense can be acute: it was he more than anyone else who spotted Labour's vulnerability on the tax issue in the final week of last year's election campaign. But there is a difference between being an accomplished minister and a national leader.

What we have been witnessing is a tussle over policy between this Prime Minister and her Chancellor, not a chapter in *The Making of the Next Prime Minister*.

## Ministry considers fur order

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Department of Trade and Industry is consulting on a proposed order requiring goods made from the fur of certain species to be labelled to the effect that the animals concerned are commonly caught by means of the leg-hold trap, Mr Alan Clark, Minister for Trade, said in a written reply.

Mr Simon Hughes (South-west and Bermondsey, L) had asked for advertising of animal furs to be outlawed.

Mr Clark said that he had no plans to do that, but the proposed order would require that advertisements should contain the information about catching methods.

The SLDs will also be given the right to be represented in meetings on the business of the House and to initiate debates and have a right of reply on announcements from the Government.

However, left over from the merger are 26 "Owenite" peers who refused to join the merger and have insisted on retaining the title of SLD. Such a small group are not likely to be given separate "rights". The fight for possession of the former SLD bench is expected to intensify at the end of the

## Protest over 'weak' laws

It was monstrous that the law was too weak to allow the perpetrators of Holocaust News to be brought to book, Mr Geoffrey James (Leicester West, Lab) said during Commons questions. They were people stirring up fascist and racist ill-will in this decent country.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, Solicitor General, said that this matter had been considered with great care, not only by the Director of Public Prosecutions' office but also by the director himself with the benefit of advice from senior Treasury counsel and by both law officers.

Having regard to all the material factors, including the likelihood or otherwise of conviction, it was not thought appropriate to prosecute.

## Cinderella rail for UK

Britain would find itself with the Cinderella railway, compared with the modern French would achieve on their side of the Channel, if Government ministers did not change their attitude towards the Channel tunnel, Mr Robert Adley (Constitution, C) said during Commons questions.

Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, said that the French and British governments regarded investment in the lines leading to the tunnel as a commercial matter.

## Aids battle gets £4.5m

The Government is to contribute £4.5 million to the central budget of the World Health Organization's global programme on Aids, Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, said at question time.

The UK was the third largest contributor to the WHO programme. So far it had been agreed to provide £3.6 million over five years through the WHO for national Aids-control programmes in Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. A large contribution to the programme in Zambia was expected shortly.

## £5m in grants for refugees

The Government is to provide an extra £5 million for refugees, divided equally between the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr Christopher Patten, Minister of State for Overseas Development, said at question time.

The money for the UNHCR will be divided into £1.5 million for Mozambicans in Malawi, £700,000 for the Sudan and £300,000 for Ethiopia.

## Prosecution pay review

The question of starting salaries for new recruits to the Crown Prosecution Service was under close scrutiny, Sir Nicholas Lyell, Solicitor General, said during questions.

He was replying to Mr Alexander Carlile (Montgomery, SLD), who said that the salaries of such recruits simply did not compare with those in the private sector.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office and Science; Prime Minister: The Budget; Lords (2.30): Licensing Bill, committee.



## Employers warned on Aids costs after survey in the US

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

One British employer in 10 is likely to have an Aids victim on the staff soon, as has happened in America, a survey reports.

The researchers warn British employers and insurance companies that they should be learning lessons from US companies on the financial and other costs involved.

The warning comes after the publication in Britain of the largest employer survey on Aids in the US, it shows that 10 per cent of US employers have someone on their payroll with the virus.

Mr Allan Durward, chief executive of the Alexander Consulting Group, which carried out the survey among 2,008 American companies, said: "While the prevalence of Aids in the US is clearly more advanced than in the UK, this means lessons can be learnt on how UK employers should handle what could be a similar percentage of cases in the years ahead."

"The US survey shows just how many employers have been touched by Aids in a relatively short time."

Meanwhile in Scotland, free condoms and injecting equipment for drug addicts are expected to be issued by general practitioners, the British Medical Association announced in Edinburgh.

It said doctors did not want to be accused of condoning a crime, but the move was the most positive and practical way of stopping the spread of Aids.

The American survey shows that 59 per cent of US companies with more than

10,000 employees have at least one person with Aids on their staff; and of the 10 per cent of employers who had a sufferer, more than half reported that more than one employee was affected. Thirty-one said they had six or more cases.

The survey says there are serious cost implications for employers. The average benefit cost per employee (for long-term disability payments, medical or death benefits) in the US is £58,000. The figure is not "startling" compared with other illnesses, but Aids generated indirect costs (such as the effect on staff morale) that could not easily be measured.

The survey found that insurers in the US did not generally limit health care coverage in response to Aids. Only 30 employers (out of the 2,008) faced limits.

Only 1.4 per cent of US employers tested job applicants for Aids, although 8.3 per cent adopted formal written Aids policies; 18.5 per cent of these recognized Aids as a disability and specifically banned discrimination against employees with the disease.

"The vast majority of US insurers and employers have responded sympathetically to employees with Aids and have continued health care and life cover protection", Mr Durward said.

Dr Andrew Vallance-Owen, Scottish secretary of the BMA, said GPs would begin issuing condoms, needles and syringes free on request once the legal position had been cleared with the Government and the Crown Office.

So far there have been 1,344 cases of Aids in Britain with 749 deaths, including 23 in Scotland. But by the end of next year there could be 4,000 deaths from the disease in Britain and as many as 3.2 million HIV positive people by 1992, Dr Norman Jarvie, chairman of the Scottish Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners, says.

The spread of the disease in Scotland has been mainly through drug abusers sharing needles, and is now affecting heterosexuals as well as the homosexual community.

Dr Vallance-Owen said the BMA wanted GPs to be able to provide condoms or injecting equipment free without the pre-requisite of counselling, but counselling should be available on request.

Other health professionals should also be allowed to provide a similar service, and pharmacists should be free to sell needles and syringes.

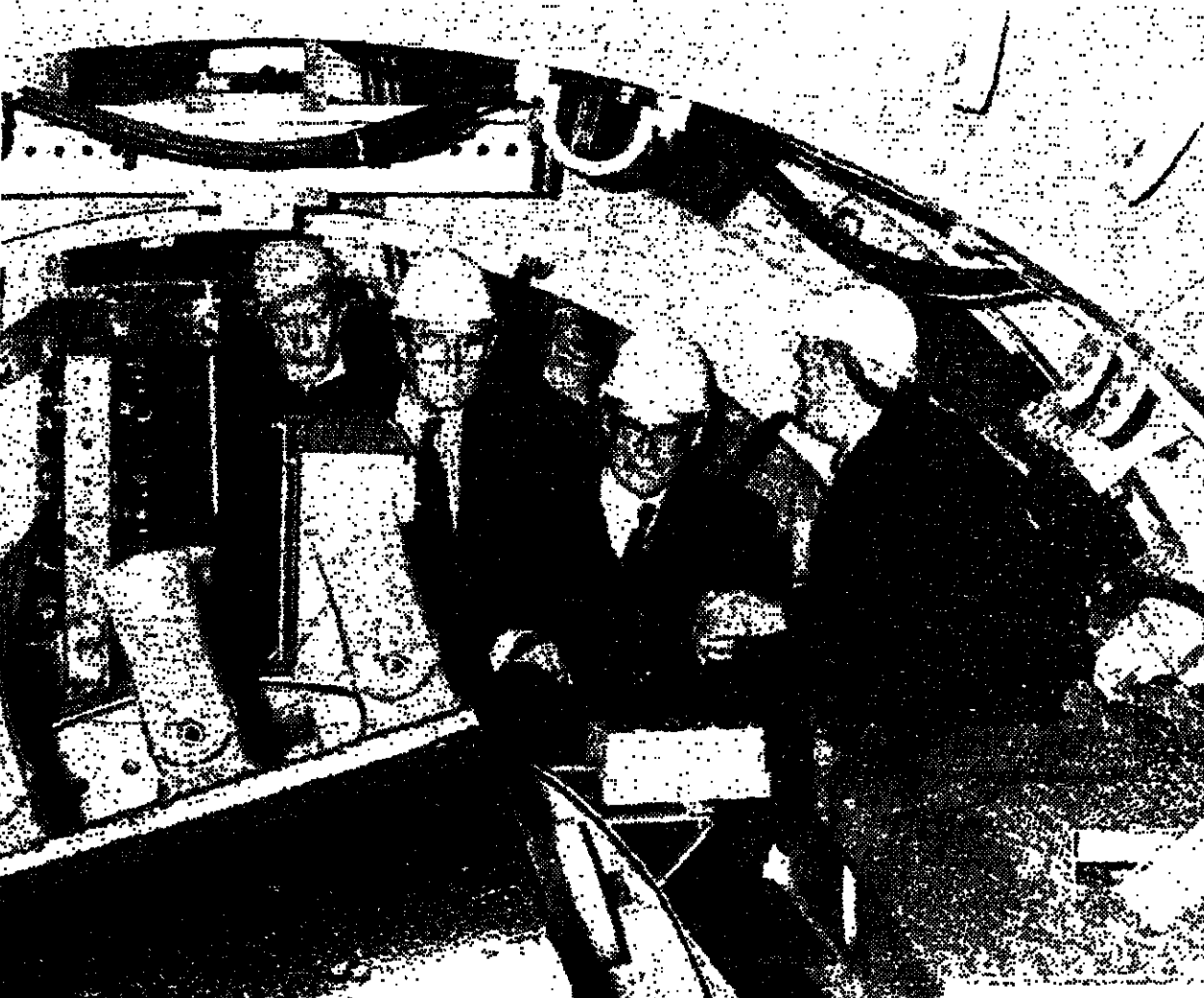
Pharmacies in Glasgow have sold thousands of needles without prosecution, but the BMA wants the legal position clarified before the practice becomes more widespread.

It is estimated that there are about 10,000 drug addicts in Scotland with about 3,000 in Edinburgh of which some 50 per cent are sero-positive.

The BMA has written to Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister of Health at the Scottish Office, seeking his support for the scheme.

(Copies of the survey are available from the Alexander Consulting Group, 145 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NX; free).

## Minister's foray under the City



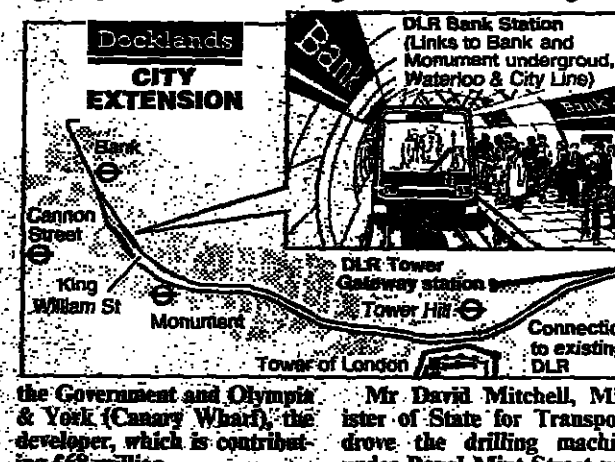
Mr David Mitchell (second right) operates a rotatable hinge-arm excavator to signal the start of work on the tunnel.

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

A railway linking the planned financial centre at Canary Wharf in east London with the traditional home of finance in the City took a step forward yesterday when drilling started on a deep tunnel.

The extension of the Docklands Light Railway from Tower Hill to Bank will run only 1.5 kilometres.

With an upgrading of the first section of the railway to enable it to take trains with four carriages instead of two, it will cost £150 million. The cost is being divided between



terday, although it will be two or three days before work begins in earnest.

The tunnels will have one station, at Bank, which will connect with the main London Underground system. It is intended to operate a shuttle service through one tunnel by the end of 1990, until the second tunnel is completed early the next year.

The City extension will link up with the existing first phase of the Docklands Light Railway above ground, east of Tower Hill, from where it will run to Island Garden in the Isle of Dogs and to Stratford.

## Stronger powers to curb video 'nasties'

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Stronger powers to crack down on violent and sexually explicit video film "nasties" were announced yesterday.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, tabled an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill giving local authority trading standards officers the same powers as police officers to check and seize suspect video films.

It strengthens the Video Recordings Act, 1984 which operates a classification system, similar to the one covering cinema films, outlawing or restricting the sale or hire of the most violent and sexually explicit video films.

However, only two prosecutions have been brought by police so far under the Act.

Mr Patten said: "With the introduction of the Video Recordings Act the hateful video nasties have largely been driven from our streets. We must not allow this position to falter."

"We believe that enforcement of the Act must be stepped up to maintain its significant success and that the appropriate and most effective people to carry out this task, in support of the police, are trading standards officers."

Mr Patten and Mr Graham Bright, the Conservative MP who introduced the Act, had recognized that an unfair burden had fallen on the police to inspect shop shelves.

The amendment is expected to be added to the Bill during its committee stage and the extra powers should be in force from September 1.

Mr Bright said: "One of the problems has been that the police do not have the time to inspect the shelves of video shops. Local authorities are better equipped to do the job."

## Boys take head start over girls

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Boys are more likely to grow up to be "leaders of society" than girls because of the way their teachers treat them in primary school, a study published yesterday suggests.

Two education researchers from the University of Ulster spent four months observing the classroom behaviour of 100 pupils aged between four and seven, classifying them as either "visible" or "invisible".

The visible children, who were nearly all boys, made large claims on their teachers' time and attention.

The invisible children, usually girls, hid like chameleons among their desks and were almost unknown. "They rarely draw attention to themselves, and their presence seldom makes any visual or audible impact."

The researchers found that teachers tended, intentionally or otherwise, to tolerate "visible" behaviour in boys but not in girls. Girls were expected to be more mature, to get on with their work and cause no trouble.

"Assertive children become aware of the value of assertiveness. Those visible children who learn the lesson best and who all through their lives know how to make a lot of noise are likely to become the leaders of society."

*Chameleons in the Classroom* (Valerie Morgan and Seamus Dunn, Faculty of Education, University of Ulster at Coleraine; free).

## Tube chief cut off by fire and smoke

The man in charge of Underground staff at the King's Cross fire told the disaster inquiry yesterday that he did not tell fire officers he was trapped by smoke and heat.

Mr Leonard Nelson, area manager, said he also accepted he could have escaped by train to another station and then walked back to King's Cross.

Fire officers have complained of the lack of senior Underground officials to consult with during the ticket hall blaze which claimed 31 lives.

Mr Nelson, of Devon Road, Barking, Essex, said he had told the line controller of his situation, but had not asked him to pass on the information to the Underground headquarters controller - responsible for liaison with the emergency services.

He agreed when Mr John Drinkwater, QC, for the London Fire Brigade, asked: "There was no way that those on the surface would know that you, the senior officer present, were in fact present but trapped?"

Mr Nelson also agreed that it would have been sensible for him to have left a colleague to watch over the platform while he made efforts to go to the surface where the fire brigade would clearly be based.

He said he reached King's Cross by Circle Line train about 22 minutes after fire engulfed the ticket hall.

After moving out some

station staff by the next train, he saw smoke billowing down steps towards him from the main ticket hall and went to investigate.

"For the first time, I saw the full extent of the smoke and felt the tremendous heat. I could not get any closer to the Tube booking hall area than the top of the stairs due to the heat." The stairs also led to the street and he could not leave the station for about 45 minutes.

Mr Nelson agreed he had not made sure the fire brigade was told of the "safe" King's Cross Midland subway, linking the station below the fire with the surface. Nor had he told staff who had used the subway to leave the station to pass that information to the brigade.

"I thought they had plans at their station and I was led to believe that those plans would have been on hand", he said.

But when he got to the surface and went to the fire brigade control unit, he was asked for the plans of the station. Almost immediately a fireman arrived with them. They were found in a special box in the ticket hall area.

Mr Nelson returned to the station manager's office in the Circle Line area. "I received a call from HQ controller advising me that two people were known to be dead. This surprised me in view of the fact that I believed the whole station area to be clear."

The inquiry continues.

## Historian's detection

## Second Caravaggio found

Sir Denis Mahon, the British art historian, has unearthed a second lost work by Caravaggio within a year.

"The Luteplayer", valued at £6 million, was discovered in the vault of the Wildenstein Gallery in New York, and comes in the wake of Sir Denis's virtuoso detective work on "The Cardsharps".

The latest find, until now attributed to a less famous artist, Carlo Saraceni, was bought by the gallery from the Barbarini family in 1948.

The painting, which is in good condition, is being restored at the Metropolitan Museum, New York, which has been given first refusal. It has been stripped down and will be retouched during the spring, overseen by Sir Denis.

Mementoes of the Duke of Windsor will be auctioned by Henry Spencer, Retford, Nottinghamshire today at a sale of items presented to him when, as Prince of Wales, he toured New Zealand in the 1920s.

They include a small diamond tie-pin set with Prince of Wales plumes and a framed, signed photograph of the prince in military uniform.

He gave the souvenirs to his chauffeur during the tour and

## SALE ROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

the chauffeur's family is selling them.

Each item is expected to realize about £600 although Mr Simon Peck, a fine art auctioneer, believes the figures could be higher. Interest in the Windsors was heightened by the Duchess of Windsor's jewel sale in Geneva last year which raised £30 million.

Mr Peck said: "There is never a lack of interest in royal souvenirs. For that reason we expect people from all over the country will be attending."

Sotheby's is to sell an adolescent manuscript by John Lennon at its rock memorabilia sale on April 7. The three-page schoolboy comic called *The Daily Howl*, "price 1d", was written and illustrated by the 18-year-old Liverpoolian in 1958, and shows his wry sense of humour was already well developed. It is somewhat rough at the edges.

It begins: "The kindly vicar of a parish, has kindly donated a kind donation, which he kindly decided to kindly do-

nate to the Society for the Prevention of Standing on Toadstools" only to cut short that line of thought with a statement that the treasurer of the society had run away with the cash.

"He went on the booze" it says, the word "booze" being scored out, and replaced with the word "bus".

The story is illustrated with an original Lennon picture of "Our Vicar", long arms like an ape, banana feet, and head sunk low into dog collar, with only his pate and two tufts of hair visible.

The document, littered with nonsense poetry, prose and cartoons, is estimated at up to £8,000.

Other items include a red suede and yellow leather costume worn by John Entwistle of The Who on *Top of the Pops* in the early 1970s, with flame motifs burning on its lapels, bellbottoms and crutch (estimated up to £1,200) and Paul McCartney's suit from *A Hard Day's Night*, 1964, estimated at between £3,000 and £5,000.

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TT 15/03/88



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WORLD ROUNDUP

# Pakistan firm on Afghan demands

Geneva (Reuters) - Pakistan has said it is sticking to its demands over a post-war government in Kabul on the eve of the deadline for accepting a UN-mediated peace accord providing for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

"There are certain concerns of ours which I have spelled out only two or three days back to everyone over here," Mr Zain Noorani, Pakistan's Minister for Foreign Affairs, said yesterday. "We will be ready to sign the moment those concerns are removed. Till then, what can I say?"

The Soviet Union has offered to withdraw its estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan within nine months from May 15 if Pakistan signs the agreement by today. But Islamabad has insisted that a neutral transitional Afghan administration must replace the Soviet-backed Government of President Najibullah to ensure the safe return of some five million Afghan refugees living in Pakistan and Iran. Moscow and Kabul have rejected the demand and accused Pakistan of trying to stall the agreement.

## PLO vows Poll losses to stay

New York (AP) - The Palestine Liberation Organization's representative to the United Nations vowed yesterday that he would defy a United States order to close the organization's mission here.

"We have the right to stay here, we will stay here and we will stay where we are," Mr Zehdi Labib Terzi, the PLO's permanent observer at the UN, said.

The General Assembly may reconvene this week in an emergency session to consider the issue. UN officials said yesterday, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, was drafting a letter of protest against the American decision to close the PLO's UN observer mission under a US anti-terrorism law.

Bogotá - The ruling Liberal Party of Colombia suffered polling reverses in the two largest cities in the country's first free mayoral elections, held at the weekend, but did manage to confirm its majority nationwide (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

The opposition Social Conservative Party succeeded in the capital, Bogotá, and in Medellín after a campaign marked by violence.

Señor Andres Pastrana, who was recently kidnapped by cocaine barons then freed by police, won the capital for the opposition. Medellín was won by a local newspaper editor, Señor Juan Gomez, who was the target of a recent assassination attempt in what is the stronghold of the drug barons.

## Sanctions bite hard

Panama City - The impact of US economic sanctions against the military-backed Panamanian Government was felt more intensely yesterday as banks remained shut and public-sector workers began walking off the job demanding payment in cash (David Gollob writes).

A strike won by stevedores demanding to be paid paralyse the Balboa Docks in the Canal Zone, and workers at other docks were expected to join the walk-out. Teachers, telephone, and electricity workers were understood to be considering similar action.

Some 150,000 government workers are due to be paid this week, but with the banks now shut for more than two weeks their pay cheques are useless.

## Lagos link renewed

Discussions open at Chevening today between Britain and Nigeria, emphasizing improved relations which began with Mrs Thatcher's visit to Lagos in January (Andrew McEwen writes). Maj-Gen Ike Nwachukwu, the Foreign Minister, will meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mrs Lynda Chalker, right, Minister of State. British officials believe the change began in 1985 when President Babangida came to power.

## NZ sticks to its guns

Wellington - Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, has overruled his Foreign Affairs Minister, and rejected the philosophy of nuclear deterrence (Richard Long writes).

"We do not subscribe to the validity of the nuclear deterrence theory and we do not support it," Mr Lange said yesterday.

His comments came after heated debate among politically powerful New Zealand groups since Mr Russell Marshall, speaking at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva a fortnight ago, acknowledged the role of nuclear deterrence in maintaining world peace. Mr Lange said the Government had never accepted or subscribed to the principle of nuclear deterrence.



Western European Union

## Anglo-French row is shrugged off

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Secretary-General of the Western European Union acknowledged yesterday that a quarrel had broken out among its member states but denied that the organization was paralysed.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Alfred Cahen, who leads the seven-nation organization from its secretariat in London, replied to claims that an Anglo-French dispute over re-organization was holding up important European security discussions.

The claims came from his former deputy, Mr Eric Hintermann, who lost his job as a result of the row.

In a petition to parliamentarians at the Paris-based WEU Assembly, Mr Hintermann said that the organization was "in crisis". Member states were so obsessed with a dispute over combining the London and Paris branches in a single new headquarters that they were losing sight of the real issues.

He said that during the Washington summit between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, the WEU Council, its ministerial ruling body, failed to discuss defence issues at all and spent its time talking about staff cuts.

In his interview with *The Times*, Mr Cahen replied: "I am not minimizing the importance of this quarrel, but it does not prevent the organization from doing its job."

But he agreed that the WEU's three Paris-based specialist agencies were "slowly dying" after the removal of two of their directors and the

retirement of the third. He also agreed that other officials were due for retirement soon and would not be replaced, and that the remaining Paris staff had little to do. But he denied that this amounted to a shut-down and said that reports that he was looking for another job were untrue.

The row stems from a meeting at The Hague at which the foreign ministers agreed in principle to "co-locate" the London and Paris operations, but failed to decide where.

Mr Cahen said he believed that co-location should now be abandoned to prevent the row continuing. But he hoped for a decision at the next ministerial meeting in April to re-structure the Paris operation as a slimmed-down think tank. "If the quarrel should go on it will create bitterness and... could be a handicap to discussions," he said.

The row has almost isolated Paris which has been fighting to keep at least part of the WEU operation on its territory. Britain, with the support of most other countries, wants a single WEU headquarters located in Brussels.

Behind the co-location issue lies a split over the purpose of the long-moribund WEU, which was re-launched in 1984. Britain wants it to be the European pillar of the Atlantic Alliance and Mrs Thatcher is determined that it should not be seen as a competitor to Nato.

But France, which withdrew from the military structure of Nato in 1966, clings to a vision of a Europe with an independent defence policy.

# Belgrade plays teacher as Gorbachov seeks reform tips

From Richard Bassett, Belgrade



Mr Gorbachov exchanging kisses with a young Yugoslav during a walkabout at Belgrade airport on his arrival yesterday.

Yugoslavia yesterday gave a somewhat desultory welcome to Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the first Communist personality to set foot here since the legendary figure of President Tito was laid to rest in 1980. The Soviet leader arrived in Belgrade for a four-day visit.

Relations between Moscow and Belgrade have improved since Stalin expelled Tito from the Cominform in 1948, and Yugoslavia has welcomed Mr Gorbachov's statements allowing for "a variety of forms of communism".

But only a handful of party faithful were taken to the airport by bus to wave carnations and red flags at Mr Gorbachov and his wife, Raisa, whose opulent astrakhan coat upstaged the assembled wives of Yugoslav party members.

A military guard of honour, resplendent in sky-blue uniforms, afforded the only colour under the leaden sky.

Mr Gorbachov was met by President Mijov and Mr Bosko Krunic, the president of the League of Communists.

Both men held these posts for a year under the rotating presidency system bequeathed by Tito. In contrast to the charisma and personality of Mr Gorbachov, Mr Mijov is only one among equals and a recent Yugoslav television programme revealed he is even

unknown by name to some Yugoslavs.

But Yugoslavs are aware of Mr Gorbachov and will follow his progress over the next few days with a combination of mild curiosity and friendliness. After eight years of frustration, cynicism among Yugoslavs towards communism's ability to reform is prevalent.

Nevertheless, as the Yugoslav daily *Borba* pointed out yesterday, Yugoslavia, unlike any of the other East European countries Mr Gorbachov has visited, does not expect his visit to be in any way significant for its brand of communism. "Restructuring comes from Belgrade," was the message of most articles yesterday.

After a private lunch, Mr Gorbachov laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Avala and at the Russian military cemetery for Soviet soldiers who were killed liberating Belgrade in 1944.

Mr Gorbachov, however, is keeping the formal side of his visit to a minimum. He is known to be anxious to learn, especially from the experience of the prosperous northern Yugoslav republic of Slovenia, how communist industry can be made efficient. He will travel to his capital, Ljubljana tomorrow before meeting his wife in Dubrovnik for the last stage of his visit.

## Israelis and Palestinians hit by economic war

# Cash crisis heralds peace talks

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The developing economic war between Israel and the Palestinians is putting pressure on both sides to start peace negotiations.

Mr Gad Yaakobi, the Israeli Economic and Planning Minister, has calculated that the country has already lost more than £300 million through the three months of unrest in the occupied territories.

The Palestinian economy, already weak, is suffering a great deal, especially as there is little or no promised support money arriving from the Arab world or the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Israel struck a telling blow this week by stopping delivery of petrol and heating oil to all Arab filling stations in the territories. Supplies are still being delivered to Jewish settlements, but Arab car owners find their life turned away.

Recent attacks on two delivery tankers are given officially as the reasons for the stoppage, but the collective punishment involved is obviously in response to mass resignations by Arab police and tax collectors in the past few days. Police resignations yesterday were reported to

have exceeded 550, out of 1,000 Arab officers, although some were reported to be prepared to return to work after assurances of protection and higher pay.

Other punitive measures being considered by the Israeli authorities include a ban on exports to Jordan of produce from an area which has been particularly troublesome.

Such a ban has just been imposed at Kabatyeh near Jenin, where a suspected Arab collaborator was lynched and where there has since been unrest. Exports of fruit and building stone from the area have been stopped, depriving the village of most of its income.

The most damaging economic weapon deployed by the Palestinians, so far, has been the partial withdrawal of their cheap labour force, on which much of Israel's construction, agriculture and municipal services industries depend. Labour Ministry figures show that 30 per cent of the 100,000 Palestinian workers are now regularly back at work, but Arab figures say the true number is half that.

Since so many Palestinians

always worked illegally in Israel - accepting lower wages to avoid taxation - the true figure of absenteeism is impossible to calculate, but the labour shortage is both inducing Israeli productivity and threatening companies surviving. Moreover, with the

Yemenis - Hungary - yesterday became the second East European country after Poland to exchange diplomatic relations with Israel, and open an interest embassy in Tel Aviv (Ian Murray writes). Mr Gad Yaakobi, a cabinet minister, will visit from the Swedish Embassy. Mr Salomon Maron is to visit from the Swiss mission in Jerusalem.

Jews, one-day strikes and attacks on transport disrupting the daily "commuter flow" into Israel, employers can no longer rely on their Arab workforce.

Israel's economic problems are also being exacerbated by the territories, which are a large captive export market, with estimated sales there last year worth about £530 million. Trends suggest that figure could be cut by 25 per cent.

The resignations of Arab tax

collectors add to the economic problems, with Israeli officials lacking the local knowledge and expertise to replace them. All 40 income tax collectors have quit in Gaza and another 37 from the VAT department there have gone. Pressure is building on their West Bank counterparts to resign.

Commercial strikes and reduced turnover have meant that there is significantly less trading and therefore less tax. Israeli VAT, fuel and purchase tax receipts overall were down by about 3 per cent to about £300 million in February. Tax revenue in the territories alone is down by about 20 per cent.

The European Parliament's refusal to ratify three trade protocols with Israel is proving a double-edged sword, while it is costing Israeli growers about £1 million a month in extra EEC import duties, it also means that Arab producers stand virtually no chance of being granted export licences for sending their goods to the Community.

Another victim of the economic squeeze is the Israeli banking system in the territories. Palestinian cheques are

"bouncing" at an alarming rate, with bad debts said to be totalling more than £50 million, and Arabs are increasingly using the three branches of the non-Israeli Cairo-Aman bank to deposit money.

Whatever the rival costs and losses, the bill for security is mounting rapidly, with more reserves being called up to maintain troop levels in the territories. One estimate suggests that the extra cost so far is about £30 million a month, and Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, warned the Cabinet on Sunday that he would soon need approval for a supplementary budget.

Another expense is the approved recruitment of 600 more Israeli policemen at a cost of about £6 million.

Widespread protests continued yesterday, with the most serious reported incident at Yammouh near Jenin, where seven people were wounded by gunfire as troops broke up a violent demonstration.

Elsewhere three Israelis, including a girl aged 12, were injured when the vehicles in which they were travelling were hit by stone-throwers.

## Politicking in Windy City

# Bush awaits the crown

From Charles Bremner, Chicago

Illinois is expected to crown Mr George Bush the Republican heir-apparent and sow further confusion in the Democratic field today after a last flurry of Chicago-style politicking down among the Irish, who have long ruled the Windy City.

Polls are unpredictable in America's most politics-mad town, where votes are traditionally cast for loyalty and revenge. "Vote early and vote often" was the rule for the old and corrupt Chicago machine.

The Windy City dominates the politics of the rest of the state. According to the main opinion polls, Mr Bush is assured of a 2-1 win over Senator Robert Dole, whose once mighty campaign maintained its fiery descent yesterday.

As Mr Dole pledged to stay in the race, in the hope that Mr Bush would fall to an Iran-Contra nemesis, his campaign staff were reported to be abandoning ship and seeking work with the Bush campaign. One man urged Mr Dole to stay in - Mr Richard Nixon.

Among the Democrats, the Rev Jesse Jackson soared statesmanlike above his bickering white rivals, each of them vying to woo Chicago's

huge white "ethnic" working class. The *Chicago Tribune* yesterday put Mr Jackson narrowly ahead of the field with 32 per cent of the expected vote. Mr Paul Simon, Chicago's white favourite son, slipped just behind, with Mr Michael Dukakis in third place with 18 per cent.

Mr Albert Gore, the Tennessee senator who has gone most shamelessly populist, has distinctly underwhelmed the Croats, Poles, Ukrainians,

black population like a conquering hero after his triumph in his native South Carolina. Little by little, the conventional wisdom of Mr Jackson as the "unelectable" broker of the Democrats is crumbling.

Mr Dukakis spent the day yesterday explaining why a brokered convention in July would be a disaster - code for "Don't vote for Simon". The local senator, who has not won a primary, is staying in the race certain that he will have a role in picking the eventual candidate.

A fair number of Chicago's traditional Democrats will not be voting for anyone in the party, thanks to one of the old revenge-loyalty rules. These are the supporters of Mr Edward "Fast Eddy" Vrdolyak, the king of the Croatian far South Side. Mr Vrdolyak turned coat last year when he was defeated in his bid to oust the late mayor, Mr Harold Washington, as the Democratic mayoral candidate. As a new-born Republican, Mr Vrdolyak, a dead ringer for the gangster actor George Raft, bestowed his clan loyalty on Mr Bush at a rally in the heart of his satrapy on Sunday.

Other polls put Mr Simon just ahead of Mr Jackson, who was welcomed home on Sunday by the city's 40 per cent

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## Gulf truce broken by missile duel

From A Correspondent, Bahrain

Iran and Iraq intensified their war yesterday with fierce fighting between ground forces and missiles fired at each other's capitals, shattering a two-day truce in the "war of the cities".

Renewal of the long-range missile duel came after Baghdad accused Iran of carrying out a ground attack and of shelling the Iraqi port city of Basra and three other population centres near the frontier.

The Iranian news agency Irna said Tehran's main ground offensive was concentrated round the north-east Iraqi town of Sulaymaniyah.

Iran earlier reported that at least 20 civilians had been killed in the missile onslaught, with reports from both sides indicating that Iraq had fired six missiles at Tehran, with the Iranians retaliating by firing two at Baghdad.

Terms of the short-lived truce in the "war of the cities", as spelled out by Iraq, specified no attacks or bombardments on civilian areas, but this did not preclude actions aimed at military or "economic" targets.

During the first 12-day phase of the missile exchanges that erupted on February 27, Iraq fired about 70 missiles and Iran about 30. Both sides

are believed to be using Soviet-designed Scud B missiles.

Iran, which appeared to have come off the loser in the earlier bombardments, accused Iraq of breaking the truce. Iran said it had retaliated yesterday by firing two missiles at "military and economic targets" in Baghdad.

The new attacks coincided with the opening in the Iraqi capital of a meeting of oil ministers from 20 Arab countries to discuss energy and mineral resources. It was not known whether the Iranian missiles had fallen anywhere near the site of the scheduled four-day conference.

An Iranian military communiqué said the ground offensive in the rugged Sulaymaniyah region was designed to avenge Iraq's new missile attacks. It said Revolutionary Guards, storming Iraqi defences despite bad weather, caused "heavy casualties" and seized several tactical objectives in the mountain area.

● BAGHDAD: The main Iranian opposition Mujahedin Khalq organization said yesterday it had released 200 captured Iranian troops on the occasion of next week's Iranian new year (Reuters reports).

## Pretoria and US meet on Angola

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town

Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and Dr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, held their first meeting in two years yesterday amid a flurry of diplomatic moves aimed at ending the 13-year civil war in Angola.

Western diplomatic sources here cautioned against speculation that anything as dramatic as a "breakthrough" was imminent, but said that the latest signs of movement were "modestly encouraging" after a prolonged deadlock.

The meeting between Mr Botha and Dr Crocker took place in Geneva and came less than a month after Mr Botha had dismissed American

Cape Town - Five black men and one woman charged with the murder of a black township councillor four years ago will be executed on Friday in Pretoria Central Prison, barring an 11th-hour stay of execution (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr Prakash Dair, one of the lawyers for the Sharpeville Six, as they are known, said: "The last hope now is that we can persuade the Supreme Court to grant a stay of execution on the basis of evidence which we are now gathering which was not heard at the trial itself."

Last December the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein upheld the conviction for murder on the grounds that they had been members of a large crowd which killed the councillor.

mediation efforts in southern Africa as "totally irrelevant".

One of the main topics of discussion is understood to have been a new peace proposal the Angolans put to the Americans at a meeting last week in Luanda, the Angolan capital, where Cuban officials were also present.

According to Angolan, semi-official Angolan news agency, the proposal includes "a timetable for the withdrawal to the north (of Angola) of Cuban troops stationed in the south and their gradual total evacuation from Angola".

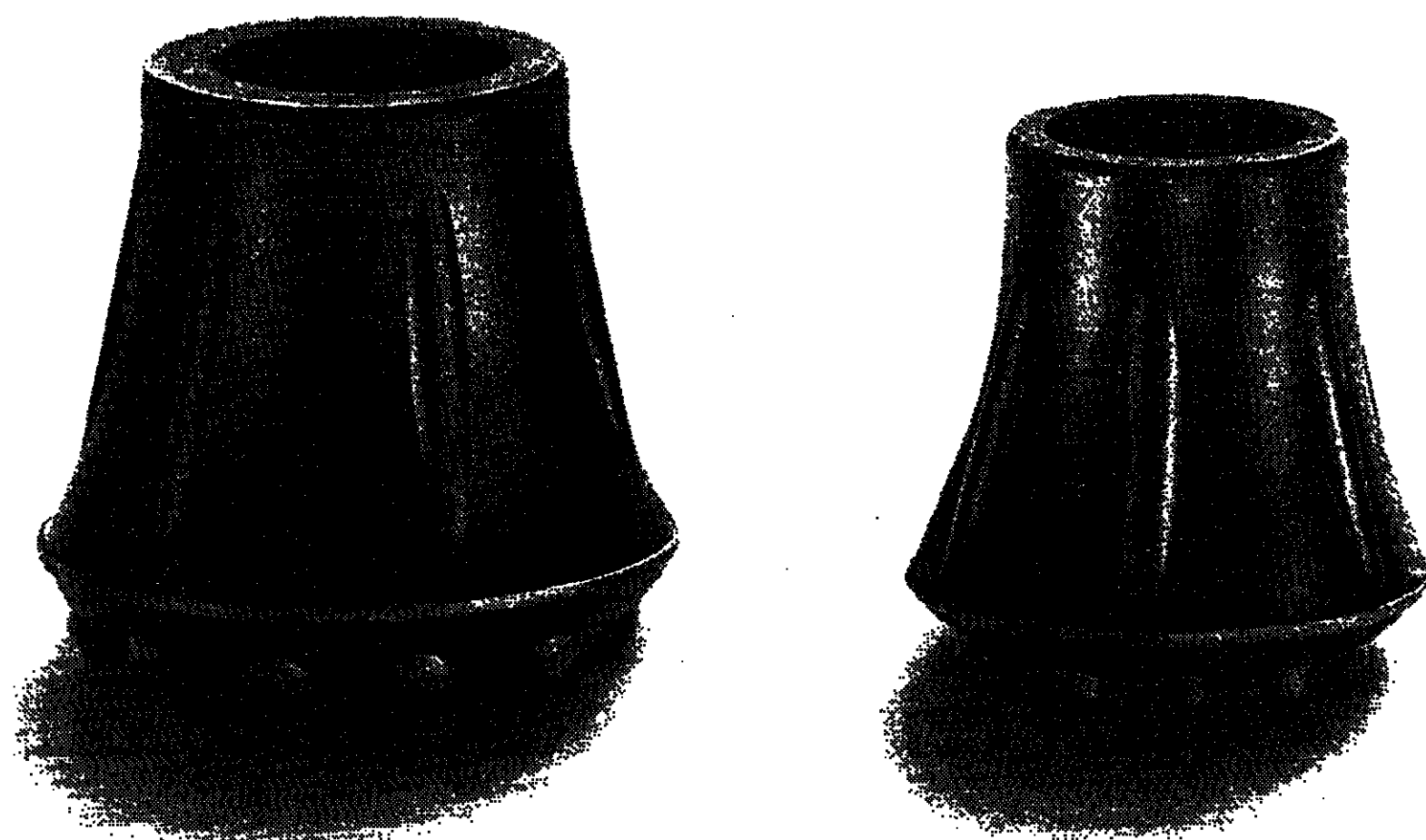
There are estimated to be between 35,000 and 40,000 Cuban troops based in the country at the request of Angola's Marxist MPLA Government in Luanda, which also receives substantial financial and military aid from the Soviet Union.

Pretoria, with the backing of the US, has long insisted on a total removal of Cuban troops as a condition for implementing UN resolutions calling for the independence of Angola's southern neighbour, the South African-occupied territory of Namibia.

Recently, however, Pretoria has gone further and called for Unita, which could not survive without South African military support, to be included in a coalition government in Luanda. A little more than a week ago General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, publicly proposed such a deal to Moscow, suggesting Afghanistan as the possible model.

It is not the first time that Angola has offered a phased withdrawal of Cuban troops. The timetable has previously always been too protracted to be acceptable to Pretoria. The details of the latest proposal are not yet known, but are thought unlikely to differ greatly from previous offers.





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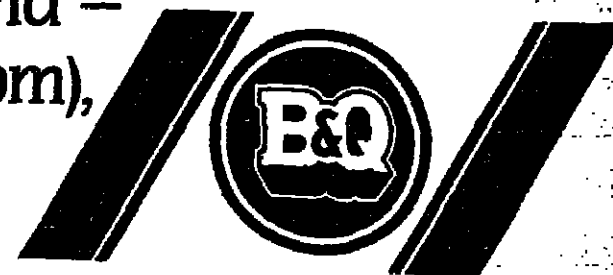
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## Aftermath of the INF Treaty

# Soviet submarines 'will be moved to target Europe'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Soviet Union has made the first moves to reassign nuclear ballistic missile submarines to European waters to compensate for the eventual withdrawal of all land-based intermediate-range weapons under the INF Treaty, according to previously classified evidence from the director of US naval intelligence, Rear-Admiral William Studeman.

Washington has been carefully monitoring the movement of Soviet ballistic submarines in the expectation that some of the older boats with more limited-range missiles could be switched from patrols about 1,000 miles off the US Atlantic coast to locations closer to potential European targets.

Admiral Studeman revealed the reassignment of Soviet Yankee Class submarines in evidence to a closed session of the US House armed services seapower subcommittee.

His 70-page statement, which outlined his predictions of future Soviet cruise-missile submarine deployment as well as the INF compensation reassignments, has now been made available by the Pentagon. Western diplomatic sources expressed surprise yesterday at the latest intelligence information. The

Soviet Union, they said, had no military or political reason at this stage for increasing the number of ballistic missile submarines in the European theatre.

Under the INF Treaty, Moscow would be allowed to keep 60 of its SS20 intermediate-range missiles deployed, each with three warheads, for up to 29 months after the pact has been ratified. One source said: "That still represents quite a potent nuclear force. There is no reason to start deploying other weapon systems now."

Although the Soviet Union made much of its early dismantling of the shorter-range SS12 and SS23 missiles in East Germany and Czechoslovakia recently, there is no sign that it intends to do the same with the SS20s until the INF Treaty comes fully into effect.

The Yankee Class submarines, first deployed in the late 1960s, are armed with 16 SSN-6 nuclear-tipped missiles, each with two warheads

and a range of up to 1,600 miles. Admiral Studeman said in his evidence that about 500 missile warheads on board Yankee submarines could be reassigned to targets in Europe and Asia.

In a wide-ranging review of Soviet naval forces, Admiral

Otto (Rear) - A Norwegian fighter pilot was killed yesterday when his F16 jet crashed during a Nato exercise in northern Norway. The plane was taking part in the Arrowhead Express exercise, which involves 14,000 troops and is designed to test Nato's ability to defend its northern flank in winter conditions.

Studeman also predicted that Moscow would deploy cruise missiles on ships and submarines in waters near Europe.

He said that the switch of submarines to the European theatre would not alter the strategic balance between the United States and the Soviet Union. But it represented the first "concrete evidence" of how Moscow would reassign its nuclear forces after the INF Treaty came into effect.

The admiral's published evidence appeared to give the US a propaganda gift, since the Soviet Union has been attacking Nato for suggesting that adjustments in nuclear forces might be necessary after the INF Treaty.

It is now expected that Nato governments will agree to the deployment of more American F111 nuclear bombers in Europe and the assignment of US cruise-missile-armed submarines to General John Galvin, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

But some diplomatic sources yesterday were sceptical that Moscow had deployed the Yankee ballistic missile submarines in European waters solely to compensate for the withdrawal of the arms under the INF deal.

One American official said: "This could be just a psychological game to try to make Europe nervous."

In his evidence, Admiral Studeman also revealed that the Soviet Union's new Delta 3 Class and huge Typhoon Class ballistic missile submarines were now being escorted by bigger numbers of nuclear-powered "hunter-killer" boats. The four Delta 4 submarines which have now been built have never gone on patrol, Admiral Studeman said, because their missiles, the SSN-23, with 10 warheads and a range of nearly 5,000 miles, "apparently have suffered reliability problems".

## Top brass allies on parade



Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany following President Mitterrand of France past a brass band yesterday in the wine-growing town of Durbach, across the Rhine from Strasbourg. The two leaders were on their way to talks which covered European security policy, further developments in European unity - including the distant prospect of a European central bank and bolstering the internal European market - and bilateral relations.

## Kohl hits roadblock on lorry proposals

By Richard Owen

The urgent programme laid down only last week by Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany for completion of the single European market ran into a serious obstacle of Bonn's own making yesterday.

At a two-day meeting of transport ministers in Brussels, West Germany - despite being in the chair - objected to free-for-all competition among the Community's lorry drivers through the proposed removal of trans-frontier road haulage quotas by 1992.

West Germany holds the EEC presidency until July. Herr Kohl put the liberalization of transport in Europe high on his list of priorities for the next three months in a keynote address to the European Parliament last week.

But with the powerful German transport lobby breathing down the Kohl coalition's neck, Herr Jürgen Warnke, the West German Transport Minister, yesterday told fellow transport ministers that Bonn could accept some opening up of the road haulage market but not the complete abolition of lorry quotas by 1992, as proposed by the European Commission.

German lorry drivers fear they could lose business to Belgian or Dutch firms.

Letters, page 17

## Military truce at the dinner table

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

In an unprecedented exercise of military openness, the Soviet Defence Minister and his American counterpart will meet at a dinner in Bern, the Swiss capital, tonight to open two days of talks on a wide range of military issues.

The discussions between General Dimitri Yazov and the US Defence Secretary, Mr Frank Carlucci, are designed to go much further than the only previous instance of such contact: a brief social get-together between two previous defence ministers, at which no business was conducted, during a summit in 1979.

The idea of the two most secretive arms of the Soviet and American governments conducting face-to-face discussions was agreed at the last Gorbachev-Reagan summit in Washington and is seen as crucial to the painstaking preparations being made for the fourth and last meeting

between the two here in May.

The Bern meetings, which will alternate between the Soviet and US embassies, are being described on both sides as merely the start of a regular series between military counterparts at all levels.

According to US sources, the initial proposal for such high-level contacts between Soviet and American military leaders was made by President Reagan during a speech to the European Parliament in May, 1985. The Kremlin believes Washington held up the meeting until Mr Casper Weinberger stepped down.

A difference of emphasis as to their main purpose has already emerged in the run-up to the talks. The Kremlin is most anxious to discuss what it claims is a switch in the whole basis of its defence strategy, while the Pentagon is keen to hammer out ways of avoiding military flare-ups.

## Letter from Athens

# Siesta's demise awakens unrest

The siesta, that hallowed Athenian tradition of the after-lunch nap, is the latest victim of a government campaign against air pollution. A drastic change in shopping hours this year has done away with the 2pm-to-5pm intermission that gave people a chance to go home for a meal and a snooze.

The idea was to eliminate two of the four daily rush hours and limit traffic along city centre roads, because the capital's million-odd ageing motor vehicles are blamed for causing most of the smog that erodes not only its ancient monuments but also the lungs of its 3.5 million inhabitants.

Fines of up to £120 are now imposed on motorists who break a long list of new rules. Private cars, for instance, may enter the city centre between 7am and 8pm only on alternate weekdays, depending on the licence numbers.

The restrictions have just been extended to the capital's 16,000 taxis, setting off a spate of strikes by cab drivers who know only too well that theirs is the only low-cost alternative to an inadequate public transport system.

This week 55 streets in the main shopping district below the Acropolis were declared out of bounds to all traffic, and some are being converted into pedestrian sanctuaries. The plan is to widen this traffic-free area and so discourage out-of-town motorists from driving in to work.

Of all the measures imposed, however, the change in opening hours by eliminating the siesta will have far-reaching social consequences. The shops, instead of operating between 8.30am-1.30pm and 5pm-7.30pm, now open between 9.30am and 7pm (after 1pm on Mondays) with a 20-minute break for lunch.

The city's 120,000 shopkeepers say they are unhappy. So last week they closed their premises and, in rare union with shop assistants, took to the streets protesting at the "backbreaking" work schedule, the high cost of lunching, and the costly need to hire extra help to stay open lest the supermarkets and department stores should drive them out of business.

There are practical problems, too. Who, for instance,

will take care of the children on their return from school if both parents work? The three-hour lunch break allowed time for all that, as well as a nap to recharge batteries for the second half of the day and those late nights out.

The siesta was sacrosanct. To telephone anyone between 2pm and 5pm was not bad manners, it was a cardinal sin.

Eating habits are already changing. Mr Vasilis Voyatzis, who owns an *ouzeri*, the Athenian equivalent of a pub, set his closing time at 7.30pm instead of midnight. "People no longer have the energy or time to come in for a drink before heading for home, or return to town for a light meal," he complained.

Two new morning newspapers have appeared, hoping, no doubt, that with later opening hours people will choose to digest the news before, rather than after, work. An entire afternoon subculture is disappearing - afternoon sex, for instance. Already the furive couples popping in and out of cars between 2pm and 5pm, and the unfamiliar telephone numbers left behind, are becoming rarer.

Yet the demise of the siesta has no air of finality. By all accounts, the results of the anti-pollution drive so far are unimpressive. The *nefos*, as the pollution cloud is known, reigns supreme, giving people headaches, breathlessness, nausea and, above all, making them irritable. And summer is not far off.

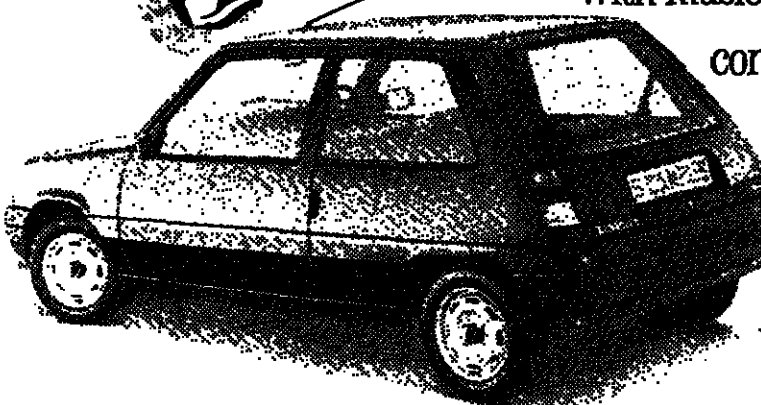
No government that wants to be re-elected would make the Athenians work in sweltering midday temperatures after June 15. The memory of last year's 1,200 deaths in Athens from the combined effect of the *nefos* and the heatwave is still vivid.

So shopkeepers and their assistants still have hope that the old split system will be reinstated. "Police measures cannot drive the *nefos* away," says the grocer round the corner from *The Times* office. "It will only go when Athenian motorists remember that they have two legs and the gods remember to send us winds."

Mario Modiano

## FOR JUST £99 DOWN, YOU CAN REALLY START TO LIVE IT UP.

You can have a lot of fun for £99. Because for just £99 deposit you can drive away a brand new Renault 5 Campus. And then you can really start to live it up. With music - the Campus comes with a radio as standard. The bright lights - there's a rear fog lamp, too. And great style - with exclusive upholstery, badging, and side stripes.



9.7%  
TYPICAL APR

TYPICAL EXAMPLE	Renault 5 Campus 3 door
Cash Price (Incl. est. on the road costs)	\$5,070.00
Flat Interest Rate p.a.	4.95%
APR	9.7%
Minimum Deposit of	\$99.00
To be financed	\$4,971.00
Finance Charges	\$738.24
Repayment Period	36 months
Monthly (1) Payment of	\$136.59
Total Credit Price	\$5,717.24*
CUSTOMER SAVING compared to the credit providers' normal 12.0% p.a. flat interest rate. (APR 24%)	\$1,051.20
(1) Weekly Equivalent	\$36.59
*Incl. \$9 option fee	

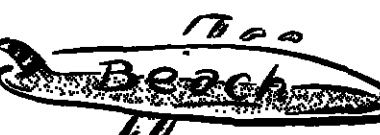
All this, for only \$36.59 a week\* over 36 months, with an APR of just 9.7%.

In fact, the cost of the high life has never been lower.

So call in on your Renault dealer today. Then you can really go to town. Or to the beach, the country, the....

The Renault 5 range from \$4,820 to \$8,780.

Visit your local dealer or phone 0800 400 415 (24 hours/free) for a brochure. All Renault cars have a 12 month unlimited mileage and six year anti-perforation warranty.



THE RENAULT 5 CAMPUS £4,820.

This offer is subject to credit status and applies to any new Renault 5 Campus ordered and registered between December 1st 1987 and March 31st 1988 (offer does not include Channel Isles). Written enquiries available on request from any Renault dealer (see Yellow Pages). Credit facilities provided by Renault Finance. Renault Finance is a subsidiary of Renault Finance Ltd, 1, The Quadrant, North West House, City Road, Chester CH1 3AN. \*3 door model. All prices correct at time of going to press. Prices include 15% VAT, Car Tax, front and rear seat belts and sound system. Number plates and delivery extra. Car shown Renault 5 Campus, 1.7i, 3 door.



## The Baden-Württemberg election

# Black Forest gloom facing economic miracle worker

From Richard Owen, Stuttgart

At a rally in the Black Forest Hall in Karlsruhe, Herr Lothar Späth, the Christian Democrat regional Prime Minister of Baden-Württemberg, mocks the latest proposal from the opposition Social Democrats — that working hours be reduced while wages stay the same.

Lunatic, says Herr Späth, to applaud from his audience of conservative businessmen. He hammers home the Christian Democrats' slogan for next Sunday's vital regional election here. "Our region in good hands".

In reality, the ruling Christian Democratic Union is in trouble. Deep in the Black Forest, something is stirring. Sunday's election is vital not only for Herr Späth, who stands to lose the party's 16-year majority in Baden-Württemberg, but also for Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn, whose Christian Democratic-Free Democratic coalition looks increasingly shaky.

Herr Späth, a balding, bespectacled man of 50, while not charismatic, is shrewd and has a native Swabian wit. In 10 years as regional Prime Minister he has made Baden-Württemberg one of the most prosperous German regions. It has a thriving high-technology industry, thanks to Herr Späth's encouragement. IBM has its European headquarters in Baden-Württemberg, as has Bosch of West Germany.

Growth rates and per capita income are high and the unemployment rate, at 5 per cent of the workforce, is half the national average.

Yet if the opinion polls are correct, Herr Späth will drop well below the 52 per cent he obtained in the last election four years ago. "The star has lost its glitter" was the headline in the weekly *Die Zeit*.

To some extent, Herr Späth is the victim of world trade forces. Stuttgart, the wealthy regional capital, is dominated by electronics firms — increasingly facing competition from Asia — and by car giants such as Daimler-Benz and Porsche. While far from the troubled Ruhr valley, the fall in the dollar has hit regional exports and trade unions estimate 30,000 jobs will be lost over the next decade. Moreover, Herr Späth acknowledges that the services sector remains weak.

Above all, there is "a chill wind blowing from Bonn", in the words of one party official. Herr Späth is trying to campaign on local issues, coupled with his international stature (he went to Moscow in February for talks with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev). But the Bonn effect keeps pulling him down. Taxpayers in Baden-Württemberg fear the worst from the tax reforms the Kohl coalition is planning.

Swabian farmers complain that farm curbs resulting from



Herr Kohl's EEC compromise will put thousands of small farms out of business. Some have vowed to vote for the Greens.

Above all, the party faithful are troubled by the Christian Democrats' national loss of direction following the mysterious death last autumn of Dr Uwe Barschel, the party's Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein in northern Germany. He had resigned over allegations involving a "dirty tricks" election campaign.

Candidates are asked time and again how the Barschel affair squares with the ethics of the party. Baden-Württemberg is a deeply Christian area. Voters are also troubled by the debate within the Bonn coalition over relaxing the abortion laws.

The main comfort for both Herr Späth and Herr Kohl is that so far the opposition parties have failed to profit

from the Christian Democrats' malaise.

In Baden-Württemberg, unless Herr Dieter Spöri, the photogenic 44-year-old Social Democrat candidate, improves dramatically on his party's 32.4 per cent in the last election, he cannot form a government in the regional Parliament in Stuttgart. Even a Social Democratic alliance with the Greens, who got 8 per cent four years ago, would not give Herr Spöri power.

But Herr Späth could be forced into a regional coalition either with the Social Democrats or with the liberal Free Democrats, who got 7.2 per cent last time. This would alter the complexion of the Bundestag, the upper house in the national Parliament in Bonn, where Baden-Württemberg has five out of the 45 members. Moreover a loss of the Christian Democratic majority on Sunday would make a similar setback in the next local election — in Schleswig-Holstein in May — a certainty.

National opinion polls already show the Social Democrats neck and neck with Christian Democrats for the first time in six years. Herr Kohl is under fire not only from the opposition but also from the Christian Social Union, the Christian Democrats' sister party in Bavaria, for having made concessions at the EEC summit in February and at the Nato summit this month.



Signor Giovanni Leone, a former President, leaving the Quirinale Palace in Rome yesterday after consultations with President Cossiga on ways to solve Italy's latest political crisis.

## Socialists hold vital ace as Cossiga shuffles his cards

From Roger Boyes, Rome

President Cossiga was seeking a way out of Italy's political crisis yesterday, shuffling the cards of possible new governments and quizzing his advisers on likely Prime Ministers.

So far the most favoured line-up is still a Christian Democrat-led coalition of four or five parties headed either by the party chairman, Signor Ciriaco De Mita, or the present Foreign Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti.

The caravan of party ex-

perts — including former heads of state and the leaders of the houses of Parliament — that trooped through President Cossiga's office yesterday agreed that the next Italian government must be strong enough to last its full term in 1992. (Signor Giovanni Ciriaco De Mita's Government collapsed and was reassembled twice in seven months before its demise at the weekend.)

That requires not only an experienced Prime Minister

but also the acceptance and co-operation of the Socialist Party, led by Signor Bettino Craxi. If he refuses to bring the party into a coalition led by Signor De Mita, then Signor Andreotti, who has already held the post five times, would be put forward.

The Christian Democrats do not, however, want to give the impression that they are being manipulated by the Socialists. They are working on a draft of a political programme that sets out the possibilities for partnership and the long-term goals of the Christian Democratic Party.

The search for a new government is more serious and less flustered than after the previous two resignations of Signor Ciriaco De Mita. The future government depends on the relationship between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists, and the latter's agreement, above all, on nuclear power and parliamentary reform.

But it will be difficult to eliminate political instability at a stroke. Italy's huge public sector deficit — 12 per cent of gross domestic product in 1987, and growing — is forcing up interest rates and slowing down the economy. Signor Ciriaco De Mita's Government, specifically commissioned to pass the 1988 budget, has left an unpalatable package. Tax increases are inevitable and the coalition, notably the Liberals, could well threaten a walk-out.

How to buy Socialist Party acquiescence is President Cossiga's main problem. One idea is to have a *staffetta*, a kind of relay race in which Signor Andreotti is allowed to be Prime Minister for two years and then would hand the baton on to Signor Craxi.

The Christian Democrats are still bitter about the way Signor Craxi refused to give up power during his remarkably successful stint as Prime Minister between 1983 and 1987. But accepting Signor Craxi as Prime Minister may turn out to be the price for the failure of Signor Ciriaco De Mita.

Leading article, page 17

## China in clash at sea with Vietnam

Peking (Reuters) — Chinese and Vietnamese warships clashed near the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea yesterday, China's state television reported.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry delivered a protest to Hanoi's ambassador in Peking and demanded that Vietnam withdraw from the archipelago or "bear the consequences". It accused Vietnamese warships of firing on Chinese vessels near the islands, but it did not say how many ships were involved or whether there were casualties.

Three weeks ago China accused Hanoi of illegally invading and occupying some of the scattered islands.

## 13 killed by Sikh gunmen

Chandigarh, India (Reuters) — Sikh extremists shot dead 13 people, including a family of four, in separate attacks in the Punjab yesterday.

Indian police said the family was shot dead in a village near Taran Taran. Extremists also killed four men in Majhaur village and five other people in the same area.

## Tigré battle

Nairobi (Reuters) — Rebels in Ethiopia's Tigré province said they routed two brigades of the Marxist Government's troops and captured several high-ranking army officers in a battle at Gelebede in the north of the country.

## Ceasefire call

Colombo — Sir Lankan police in Batticaloa dispersed 5,000 supporters of a woman on her 24th day of a fast aimed at securing a ceasefire from the Indian peacekeeping force.

## Airline strike

Rome (Reuters) — Italy's state airline Alitalia, and its subsidiary ATI, cancelled 50 per cent of flights to and from Rome after ground staff walked out in a contract dispute.

## Poles cash in

Warsaw (AP) — Poland, cashing in on the popularity of the Pope, has struck new gold coins with the papal image, to be sold in the United States for about \$4,800 each.

## Cairo thaw

Cairo (Reuters) — The Soviet Cultural Centre, closed by Egypt 10 years ago, has just reopened in a new sign of steadily improving relations.

## Porn star dies

Los Angeles (AP) — Pornographic film star John Holmes, aged 43, who claimed thousands of sexual conquests, has died, reportedly of AIDS, two weeks after he was quizzed about four murders.

## Robbers foiled

Rome (AP) — Guards in a Brinks Securmark armoured van foiled an attempted hold-up when they opened fire on robbers who blocked a street with a lorry and a road grader.

# The Lloyds Bowmaker Loan.

## We give it to you straight.

### Q. What is a Homeowners Loan Plan?

A. Quite simply, it's a loan secured by a mortgage on your property.

### Q. Who am I really borrowing from?

A. From Lloyds Bowmaker, a long-established reputable company. A subsidiary of Lloyds Bank.

### Q. How much can I borrow?

A. From £1,000 to £30,000 or more.

### Q. Can I afford the loan?

A. You should only borrow what you can comfortably afford to repay. We certainly won't encourage you to borrow more than that. But remember, by spreading your repayments over a longer period, you could limit your monthly outgoings. This, of course, should leave you with some welcome extra cash at the end of each month.

### Q. Suppose I'm suddenly unable to make my repayments?

A. If this should happen we will do everything we can to help you. We suggest you insure your monthly

repayments against loss of income, with our Payment Protection Plan. It costs very little, yet it is one of the most sensible ways of protecting yourself against life's uncertainties.

### Q. How much does it cost?

A. Less than many other loan plans. A very competitive 16.7% APR (annual percentage rate). Compare that with, say, storecards. Even lower rates are available for loans above £5,000 over 5-15 years.

### Q. What can I use the loan for?

A. Entirely up to you. Make a major purchase, improve your home. Re-organise your finances by paying off existing commitments such as storecard bills and loan agreements at the same time. In fact, any sensible purpose.

### EXAMPLES OF REPAYMENTS AT 16.7% APR VARIABLE

Amount of Loan £	36 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	60 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	90 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	120 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £
1000	34.96	24.11	18.92	-
3000	104.88	72.32	56.75	-
4000	139.84	96.42	75.66	66.01
5000	174.80	120.53	94.58	82.51

Example: Borrow £3,000 over 3 years, your monthly repayments will be only £104.88 and the total repayment £3,773.56.

### PRIORITY APPLICATION FORM

EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

Occupation

Number of Years Service

(Proof of all incomes must be enclosed)

YOUR PROPERTY

Address of property offered as security

Postcode

If we do not occupy premises

Date property purchased

Price paid for property £

Estimated value £

Discount YES/NO Amount

YOUR MORTGAGE

Amount of Mortgage outstanding £

Name and address of Building Society

Roll No. Monthly repayment £

### Q. Are there any hidden fees or costs?

A. None whatsoever. No legal fees. No surveyor's costs. And life insurance is normally included at no extra cost. (You'll know exactly where you are with us).

### Q. Who'll know about the loan?

A. We will. You will. Our service is strictly confidential. We won't even contact your employers.

### Q. How long can I take to repay my loan?

A. You can take anything from 3 years to 15 years. And remember, you can reduce your monthly repayments by spreading your loan over a longer period.

### Q. How do I apply?

A. Simply fill in the application form and send it to: Lloyds Bowmaker (DL), Finance House, FREEPOST, Bournemouth, BH1 3TQ. Or call us free on 0800 373911 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

**Freephone 0800 373911**

(OFFER APPLIES IN UK MAINLAND ONLY)

Name and address of Second Mortgagee

Amount of Mortgage outstanding £

Please tick if you are interested in payment protection insurance cover Yourself ☐ Self and Partner ☐

To Lloyds Bowmaker

I/we confirm that all information shown above is accurate and agree that it shall form the basis of my/our agreement. I/we authorize you to release the information above to any Third Party as may be required in the course of your business or for the completion of general credit reference information. I/we authorize you to take up any references you require including information from our existing mortgage(s). I/we hereby authorize you or your agents to inspect the register of our title at H.M. Land Registry.

Signed

Signed (Partner)

Date

**Lloyds Bowmaker**

Spend a weekend at the Amsterdam Marriott for only £117 for two and explore the city's famous museums and canals for free.

This price for two includes one night's weekend accommodation at the superb Marriott Hotel, breakfast, dinner, free museum passes and tickets to tour the canals.

Additional weekend nights are only £44\*

So why not spend a weekend at the Amsterdam Marriott.

It's not just a good idea, it's a masterpiece.

For details or reservations call the hotel, your travel agent or London 01-439 0281 and ask for the museum weekend.



**AMSTERDAM Marriott HOTEL**

Stadhouderskade 19-21, 1054 ES Amsterdam, Tel: (20) 835151. Fax: (20) 833834.

\*Subject to availability. Valid through December 1988. \*Dinner and breakfast only. As at Financial Times exchange rate of 1.50 (rates inclusive of tax and service).



The Chancellor's words this afternoon affect everyone's life. Rodney Lord explains

# How to follow the Budget

## ECONOMIC FORECASTS

Economic Growth, 1988  
Last forecast: 2½%

Budget forecast

Inflation through the year  
Last forecast: 4½%

Budget forecast

Balance of payments 1988  
Previous forecast: -£3½bn

Budget target

Public borrowing, 1988-89  
Previous target: £4bn

Budget target

Oil price 1988  
Previously assumed \$18 a barrel

Now expecting

Money targets, 1988-89  
Previously: MO: +1% to 5%  
Budget targets:

MO:

Other:

## ECONOMIC FORECAST



OVERHEATING

It looks as if Nigel Lawson will be the first Chancellor in modern times to preside over public sector accounts in substantial surplus. How big a budget surplus he chooses to announce will help to determine the Budget's reception in the City and whether there is any prospect of interest rates coming down. It will also determine how much he has left for tax cuts. The general expectation is a surplus of £2.3 billion.

Although the economy will grow more slowly than the exceptionally rapid progress made last year, when Britain was the fastest growing of all the major economies, it is still expected to make healthy gains of 3 per cent or more.

The question being asked is whether growth is still too fast, risking the economy overheating. One indicator will be the balance of payments. A deficit of more than, say, £4.5 billion could cause nervousness.

Particularly important will be what Lawson says about monetary policy and the pound. After the public disagreements between the Chancellor and Prime Minister over the past few days on the importance of currency stability, the City is looking for some reassurance about sterling. Expect at least a general reference to keeping the exchange rate steady.

## BUSINESS TAXES

Corporation tax:

Employers' NICs Budget

5% £41-70 a week

7% £70-105

9% £105-155

10.45% Over £155

VAT threshold: Neutral Budget: £22,100

Actual Budget:

Financial services tax

North Sea oil

Company car scales, 1988-89

Small business

Other changes

## POPULAR CAPITALISM

Changes in income tax reliefs for:

Personal equity plans

Business Expansion Scheme

Employee share schemes

Profit sharing

Stamp duty

Capital Gains Tax Threshold: Neutral Budget: £6,900

Actual Budget:

Inheritance Tax Threshold: Neutral Budget: £94,000

Actual Budget:

Other Changes

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## SPENDING TAXES

Gallon of petrol: Neutral Budget: Up 3.7p

Actual Budget:

20 cigarettes: Neutral Budget: Up 3p

Actual Budget:

Pint of beer: Neutral Budget: Up 1p

Actual Budget:

Bottle of whisky: Neutral Budget: Up 20p

Actual Budget:

Car licence: Neutral Budget: Up £3.70

Actual Budget:

Other duties

VAT changes

Other duties

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## PERSONAL TAX BREAKS

Husband and wife

Mortgages

Age allowances

Single parent's allowance

Charitable donations

Other covenants

Pensions/life assurance

Social security

Health insurance

Other reliefs/allowances

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## INCOME TAX

Allowances, 1988-89

Single person (and wife's earned income)

Neutral Budget: Up £90 To £2,515

Actual Budget: Up

To

Married man

Neutral Budget: Up £150 To: £3,945

Actual Budget: Up

To

Threshold for higher rates

Neutral Budget: £18,600

Actual Budget:

Top Rate 1987-88 60%

1988-89

Basic rate of tax 1987-88 27%

1988-89

Employees' NICs Budget

5% £41-70 a week

7% £70-105

9% £105-305

Other changes

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## NEW WORDS FOR OLD

Philip Howard

## Sound and the fury...

It is a formidable controversy, inherent with genuine furor and dilemma, that our pronunciation is deteriorating. Never mind the meaning. Read the sentence aloud and see whether you have any doubts or hesitations about how to pronounce and where to stress the eight polysyllabic words in it.

Language purists and reactionaries get more excited about what they consider mispronunciation (i.e. pronunciation different from what they were taught as children) than about almost any other kind of error or sin by the media. Old fogies complain that they cannot understand what the young are saying any more.

A certain amount of snobbery comes into this. Educated Received Standard English (i.e. the form spoken by a person born and brought up in one of the Home Counties, educated at one of the established southern universities, and not so pig-headed as to suppose that the way he speaks is the only correct sort of English) is a strong class shibboleth. Let us try to sort out what is happening.

Until recently, the pronunciation of a word took about 50 years to change, and even longer before the change was accepted by linguistic shibboleths. For example, *armada* was pronounced to rhyme with "raider" until 1880. The speed of change has been greatly accelerated by the vast expansion of broadcasting since the war. Fashions in pronunciation, as in other things, spread fast around the globe. "Celebrities" with regional, or uneducated, or incorrect pronunciations are imitated by their fans. Since most celebrities come from the United States, American tendencies are accentuated.

There are other factors than celebrity-worship at work. English tends to concentrate the stress and accent on a single syllable, and leave the others to take care of themselves. This is in marked contrast to a language like French, which enunciates and stresses each syllable with beautiful clarity.

Then there is the recessive accent in English, the tendency to get in early and put the stress early in the word. French words like *château*, *charlatan*, *homeland*, *garage*, and many more at least as much stress and accent on their last syllables as on any other. But as soon as we Brits have borrowed them, our ancient Germanic pronunciation tendency shifts the stress backwards, and we start saying *shátto*, *garáridge*, *shárlátan*, and the like.

Working against these tendencies is the difficulty of skipping through a number of light syllables in polysyllabic words, after we have got rid of the big bang on the first syllable. So we are taught that the correct pronunciation is to put the stress on the first syllables of words like *kíllometre*, *lámmentable*, *forímidable*, *láboratory*, *deuterónomy*, and on the second syllable of words like *recremínation* (a prefix is not normally stressed). But this rapid dance of unstressed syllables is difficult to pronounce.

So we solve the problem either by dropping a syllable or two (*lábratry*, *gúvment*, *joolry*, *displínary*); or by introducing a second stress (*disciplínary*, *deuterónomy*); or by shifting the stress forward again (*láboratory*). In the end, we may reach a temporary consensus on the pronunciation that suits our generation best; but don't count on the support of subsequent generations.

He needs a good acting P.E.P. pill!



OVERHEATING

The millions of small savers introduced to stock exchange investments through the Government's privatization programme have had a hammering since the crash last October.

To keep popular capitalism spreading, Chancellor Nigel Lawson may want to give another tax break to direct investors in shares. The easiest way would be to make the rather unsuccessful Personal Equity Plans, announced two years ago, more attractive, perhaps by giving tax relief at the beginning rather than when the investments are realized.

The Stock Exchange is keen to see the remaining ½ per cent Stamp Duty on share transactions abolished. But to do that Lawson might also have to cut the rate on property, which would cost a lot of revenue and give an unwanted boost to house prices.

Of the capital taxes, Capital Gains Tax is unpopular mainly because it has become so complicated. He might try to simplify it by relieving gains made before 1982.

Inheritance Tax is also likely to stay, having only been introduced in its present form two years ago, but the steep rise in house prices means that it affects people with quite modest estates. He may raise the threshold again.

A penny on a pint, three pence on a packet of 20. Those could be among the headlines if the Chancellor decides to adjust existing duties for the rate of inflation over the past year. Because the duties are levied on the quantity rather than the price of an article, the real rate of tax tends to decline as prices rise.

Last year Nigel Lawson, unusually, decided to leave the duties where they were, giving a break to smokers, drinkers and motorists. He seems unlikely to do the same this year, and he may decide to finance some of the cuts he wants to make in income tax by reversing his past generosity and raising the duties by more than the general rise in prices last year.

Cigarettes are particularly vulnerable since there are health reasons for discouraging smoking, though Lawson has tended to give special consideration to pipe smokers, many of whom are pensioners. Petrol could also be vulnerable because the fall in the oil price will tend to offset any increase in the duty. But there are limits to how much he can squeeze if he wants to avoid giving an unwelcome boost to the retail price index.

Major changes in the coverage of VAT have been ruled out this year by pledges not to tax food, fuel or children's clothing. That leaves some odds and ends including newspapers which could still be in line, plus those areas where the EEC Commission has been arguing that Britain is contravening Community law. The recent European judgment on the prescription of spectacles could be implemented in the Budget, though the bigger issue of VAT on new commercial building seems unlikely until the final judgment is delivered later this year. The VAT rate is probably likely to stay at 15 per cent.

Even bigger tax breaks are available on pensions. Although Lawson has promised public consultation before any major changes, he might restrict relief on what he once called "the anomalous but much loved lump sum" available tax-free on retirement.

Like a good detective writer, the Chancellor usually leaves his choicest items until the end of his speech. This year much is expected. Income tax rates will be cut and the income tax structure may be reformed.

The key question is how radical he will be. The more daring he is in the matter of reform the more he will be able to cut the rates.

Income tax rates have been coming down everywhere, and Britain's top rate of 60 per cent no longer looks particularly competitive internationally. The minimum Lawson is expected to do is cut it to 50 per cent. To bring it down any further he is likely to want to make some offsetting increases on higher incomes.

The two main options are either to confine tax allowances like mortgage interest relief to the basic rate, or to align national insurance contributions more closely with income tax by levying them all the way up the income scale. Either would enable him to give bigger incentives to higher earners by taking less of each extra pound earned while limiting criticism that he is favouring the rich.

Reform of the higher rates will be linked to a cut in the basic rate, probably of 2p to bring the rate down to the long-standing target level of 25p in the pound. Personal allowances will also be increased. Watch to see if he increases them by more than the rate of inflation, which would help to cut marginal tax rates at the bottom of the income scale to complement the cuts at the top. The figures representing an increase by inflation alone are given above.

As well as changing the rates he may also tighten up enforcement procedures by adopting further proposals from the Keith Report.

## Tournament of the Mind

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To celebrate London Fashion Week, Harrods is featuring the collections of the most exciting names in British fashion. And while their names may suggest a slightly more exotic lineage, the clothes are quintessentially British. Inventive, feminine, dramatic verging on dangerous. And as beautifully-cut as anything from Paris or Milan. Black, white and bright pinks, yellows and blues are the season's colours. Among the other designers being featured are Betty Jackson, Jasper Conran, Jean Muir, Bruce Oldfield, Bellville Sassoon, Alistair Blair, Caroline Charles and Workers for Freedom. All to be found on our 1st Floor.

Shown above: John Galliano bow shirt, £160. Skirt, £148.

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# LONDON FASHION 1 by Liz Smith

## Who are the smart set?



While the inspirations for next season's clothes are being flaunted on the catwalks, what should we be wearing now? Designers give their views on who, and how, they please

Who is she? Where is she off to, with those sizzling fiesta colours outlining every curve, and smouldering beneath a parasol-size sombrero? And who is the woman in the shapely £300 blazer? What does she do? At the end of a weekend when British fashion has been the focus of attention, and when international buyers trawled London's chic shopping streets for fresh ideas and crowded the exhibition stands and shows where next season's styles were revealed, I nudged designers and retailers to give some thought to the woman who actually buys their clothes, and to the image that ought to spring to mind as they sit at their sketchpads.

Who wears the dizzy chiffons that they have dictated should flutter in the stores right now? Is her hip size considered when they propose a tulip skirt?

Good design need not cost the earth either, as has been proved by Jeff Banks with his Warehouse chain, where much contemporary British style is born.

On this page you see a clutch of outfits, from a cross-section of London's top designers, that are in the shops now. Over the page is a taste of what your winter wardrobe will look like, as a follower of British style.

"If clothes are successful they can be worn by women of 16 or 60," Jasper Conran says. His clients range from Paula Yates and the Princess of Wales to his own mother, Shirley Conran. A pioneer among London designers for a modern, but realistic approach to style, Conran surprised his customers by going off on a new tack for this summer - new for him, at any rate: a bias cut, or asymmetric angles softened by a veil of chiffon. For fans of the understated crispness for which he has been noted, these are difficult notions to understand. But London's social *crème* who browse along Beauchamp Place have been seduced by the romance of it all, and Harrods report that Conran's sheerest chiffon blouses and stretchy tube dresses in navy and white stripes are a sell-out.

Joseph Ettedgui cannot ever forget who his customer is. London's most sensitive retailer, who sets the trends in his chain of shops selling owl-label designs for Joseph Tricot and Pour la Ville, sees the woman every day. "I recognize her in the local delicatessen, shopping in Partridge's. I know her well. She has a strong image, whether she is wearing just a little leather skirt, or a T-shirt and jeans; I understand her attitude to life.

"I always have her in mind. Just as Mara or Lorenzo understand the mood of regulars in San Lorenzo, [with Joseph's own two restaurants, this is a favourite watering hole of the fashion crowd] I judge my customer and pro-

vide her with a new jacket, or a skirt that is a little different. I notice she wears other designers too, and can just top up with all the basics here."

Jeff Banks meets his customers around the country in his regular trips as co-presenter of *The Clothes Show* programme on BBC television. "She is 'fashion-intelligent'," he says decisively. "She is frugal, budgets carefully, and recognizes good value. She is not particularly addicted to fashion, and has more to do than spend much time thinking about herself. I cannot define her by age as her attitude depends solely on her awareness."

"Wherever she lives, whether it's Glasgow, Cheltenham or Knightsbridge, she takes an active part in the creative and social life around her. She is not concerned about projecting an image solely for her job. She is in the nub of things, often goes out straight from work and likes to dress accordingly."

Arabella Pollen sees "someone wearing one of my coats in Partridges in Sloane Street, when I am in there buying chocolate brownies". Are the

fashionable such food-obsessives? "We have a very European clientele that splits between those rather glossy cosmopolitan women whose social life divides between London, Gstaad or Paris. Then we have the English customer, working women like the interior designer Jane Churchill, who has to be organized about her wardrobe. She will come in once a season and plan several outfits. I gather the younger crowd buy my evening clothes. I don't know who they are. I don't go to parties."

Murray Arbeid makes a point of meeting his customers. In the established tradition of top Manhattan design stars he stages trunk shows, touring major stores in the United States, where he is treated like a star. "I have a particular lady in mind. She lives between London and San Francisco. She is a writer and works hard. Frankly, she is a designer's dream. She likes clothes and, most important, she looks good in them. The two do not always go together."

Buying for her cosmopolitan clients, Amanda Verdian at Harvey Nichols in Knightsbridge has the pick of inter-

national designers. "The woman who shops here knows what is going on. She reads *Interiors* as well as *Vogue*. She likes classics, such as Paul Costelloe for day, and shops for Jean Muir, Jacques Azagury and Bruce Oldfield for those particularly English social occasions, such as Ascot and summer balls."

It is obvious that to enjoy commercial success, and hold a faithful following, a designer must evolve a style confidently, season by season. Too drastic an innovation elicits a response in a customer bordering on fear; she turns on her heels and shops elsewhere. Too much circumspection and any woman restless for fresh style responds in much the same way. Designer Caroline Charles was among the first to open her own shop more than a decade ago, in Knightsbridge. It is an essential lifeline to her customer. She happily rides out the troughs of the slow seasons any retailer inevitably faces simply for the feed-back she gleans from the woman seeking style. It is only by sensing the social patterns around them that London's top designers succeed.

London Fashion 2, page 14



Above: Summer blazer in cream fine wool gaberdine, £310; navy wool gaberdine tulip skirt, £130, both also in taupe, dusty pink, light blue, Joseph Pour la Ville at Joseph Tricot, 16 South Molton Street, W1; 16 Sloane Street, SW1; 288 Brompton Road, SW3. Navy straw Breton hat banded in white, £125, Philip Somerville, 11 Blenheim Street, W1

Above left: Summer coatdress, in tobacco and black windowpane check linen and viscose mix, £89.99; also in black and cream, Warehouse, 19-21 Argyll Street, W1; and branches. Natural straw hat, £80, Philip Somerville, 11 Blenheim Street, W1. Black and white co-respondent sling-back shoes, £89, Pied à Terre, 19 South Molton Street, W1. Bag, £350, Chanel, 26 Old Bond Street, W1

Left: Aztec-embroidered sugar pink ottoman bolero, £420; long T-shirt dress in Ghanaian rainbow striped jersey, £180; both Rifat Ozbek at Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Eau de nil straw sombrero, Patricia Underwood for Rifat Ozbek, to order

Hair: Julian Le Bas for Hari. Make-up: Kim Jacob at Pin-Up. Photographs: NEIL KIRK

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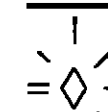
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## LONDON FASHION 2

## All our yesterdays



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Britain's stylish new fashion fortnightly asks the questions, names the names.

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Assured clash of modern classics: hound's-tooth check shirt, tapestry waistcoat. Photographs by HARRY KERR

British designers have been rediscovering our cultural heritage, from Victorian bloomers to tweed, brocade and tartan

**T**o many of us, British fashion means hacking jackets and riding mocs, a tiana worn with a grand evening dress, and the perfectly tailored tweed suit. London designers confidently celebrate this heritage of style in their latest collections, turning tartan and tweed into genteel classics for next autumn. In the hands of an avant-garde designer like Katharine Hammett the look assumes a delightfully Edwardian aura, with ankle-length coats and crushed fly-away velvet hats trimmed with flowers and feathers.

The more conservative interpreter of the look ransacks the dressing room of the British dandy for the cravats, gamut gloves and waistcoats of a Regency buck. Free-thinkers, such as Alistair Blair, simply add a swirling riding skirt or slender trousers to his perfectly tailored blazers and top coats.

Vivienne Westwood bears the unfortunate burden of being the totem for London's fashion iconoclasts. A Westwood collection is invariably destined to become a symbol of the mood of the new generation, both here and abroad. With this latest she is leading them back to the old-fashioned values of Victorian bloomers and bodices as well as neat suits in traditional tweeds. Whether simply to create the aura of excitement required these days in a fashion show, or just to display her mockery of such a genteel style, she larked about with corsets and petticoats, stiffening and flicking up the demure box-pleats of her tweed skirts.

Katharine Hammett, for all the boisterous, political cat-calling that she stitches into her clothes, consistently produces the basics of a youthful, modern wardrobe. In the bird's eye tweed, chestnut suede and dark velvet of her new autumn collection, her classics have an even broader commercial appeal. Brocade waistcoats are glimpsed under high-buttoning Edwardian coats, breeches are tucked inside boots, and a velvet cape is clasped over a taffeta dress. A traditional Norfolk jacket with poachers' pockets becomes spectacularly female attire when tailored by that master of shape and pazz, Antony Price. This was the first time that Price, a favourite couturier to the glamorous set, paraded his collection at the same time as the rest of the established designers, and his show was a wow. His is the most arrogant dandy of them all. With her evening breeches and brocade frockcoat and waistcoat she wears a plumed

Designer of the Year John Galiano put on a stunning display of his cutting skills. His new "shorts" coadress will become a classic, and his stoles (he has invented a stole with lapels, and a buttoned-up double-breasted stole) an essential part of the winter scene.

Jasper Conran has confidently developed his asymmetric line with sweaters which are tight turtle-necked bodysuits with a shawl collar looped stylishly



Chestnut leather jacket with flared peplum, mid-calf dusty mauve skirt, visored cap

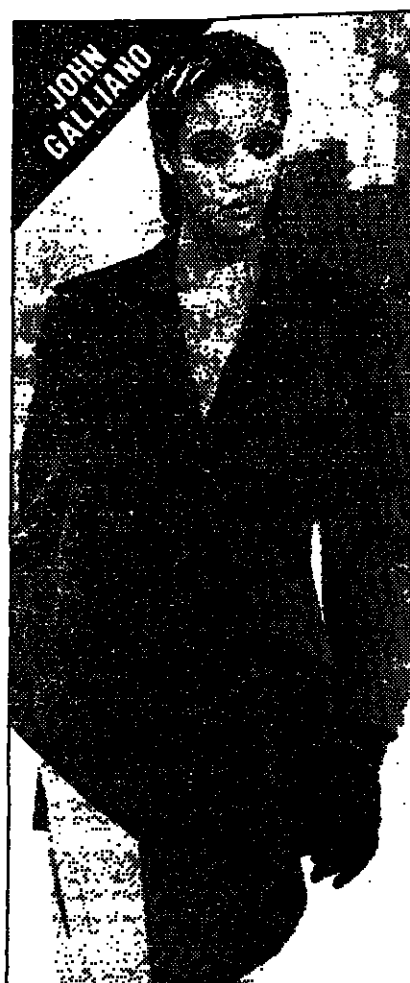
turban. When not cracking her whip in jodhpurs and hacking jacket, Price's vamp slips into the most daring little frocks with fur collars framing shoulders. In his finale, his models simply ripped off the long skirts of his slinks of velvet to reveal little short skirts underneath.

Designer of the Year John Galiano put on a stunning display of his cutting skills. His new "shorts" coadress will become a classic, and his stoles (he has invented a stole with lapels, and a buttoned-up double-breasted stole) an essential part of the winter scene.

Jasper Conran has confidently developed his asymmetric line with sweaters which are tight turtle-necked bodysuits with a shawl collar looped stylishly

around one shoulder. He puzzled store buyers, however, by showing side-dipping coats that can hardly stand alone as an all-purpose cover-up, but need to be sold with the matching accordion-pleated skirt that goes underneath.

Jean Muir has produced a collection that sizzled with style. Colour and print were inspired by the Barrier Reef for her all-wool line that was the toast of Australia's Bicentennial gala in January. With her growing number of outlets across the United States, Jean Muir has contrived to up the curves of her cut with her signature peplums looking perkier with an added bias flare, her cashmere tunics and her famous jersey dresses more slinky.



Impeccably tailored asymmetric double-breasted dark wool three-quarter coat, wide trousers



Shapely tailored bird's-eye check tweed riding coat and matching trousers, black silk stock



Wacky combination of tweeds and tartans: waistcoat with cape attached, dirndl with high-waisted peplum



Dandy look: double-breasted green and gold brocade waistcoat, white shirt with stock, frock coat and trousers

## PEOPLE

## Arbeid's aria

Joan Collins and photographer David Bailey's wife, Catherine Dyer, plus a clutch of celebrity models like Mo'Nique, Saffron and Michelle Paradise, were among the beauties spotted at the Royal Opera House on Sunday evening, posing in designer Murray Arbeid's latest clothes.

The creator of glamorous dresses for the grandest of soirées, Arbeid had the wit to parade his new collection in a suitably grand setting. Although any number of social celebrities might have been happy to take part in his "Fashionscape" in the Opera House foyer and in the Crush Bar, Arbeid added drama to the occasion by enrolling Adel Rootstein's celebrity mannequins to wear his stunning chenille-embroidered taffeta frocks and Balenciaga-inspired cocoon-shaped cocktail dresses. They draped themselves up the staircase and around the bar.

"Everyone has accused me in the past of being a bit grand and elegant. I think maybe this proves that everyone may be right," announced the elegant, grand and mischievous Arbeid.

"I was shivering inside it was so beautiful. I was hypnotized." So spellbound was designer Joseph Ettedgui by Michael Roberts's short film interpretation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that he promptly dispatched his latest collection to *Tatler's* wayward fashion editor, and commissioned the budding moviemaker to direct another "short" featuring his Joseph Tricots. The resulting film,



Operatic: from Murray Arbeid

*Sanctus*, was screened in a haze of incense at Hamilton's Gallery in Carlos Place, London, on Sunday night with crucifixes and madonnas around the walls (some found it "sacriligious"; others called it "pure"). The clothes themselves were seen merely as art, and glimpsed in Roberts's soft-focus photographs displayed in the gallery.

Joseph collaborates each season with Roberts in the staging of his fashion show. "Everyone makes promos and movies these days to create an image. I wanted to provide an alternative to the regular fashion show," he says.

An exhibition of Michael Roberts's photographs, paintings and his film, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, is at Hamilton's, 13 Carlos Place, W1 until March 23.

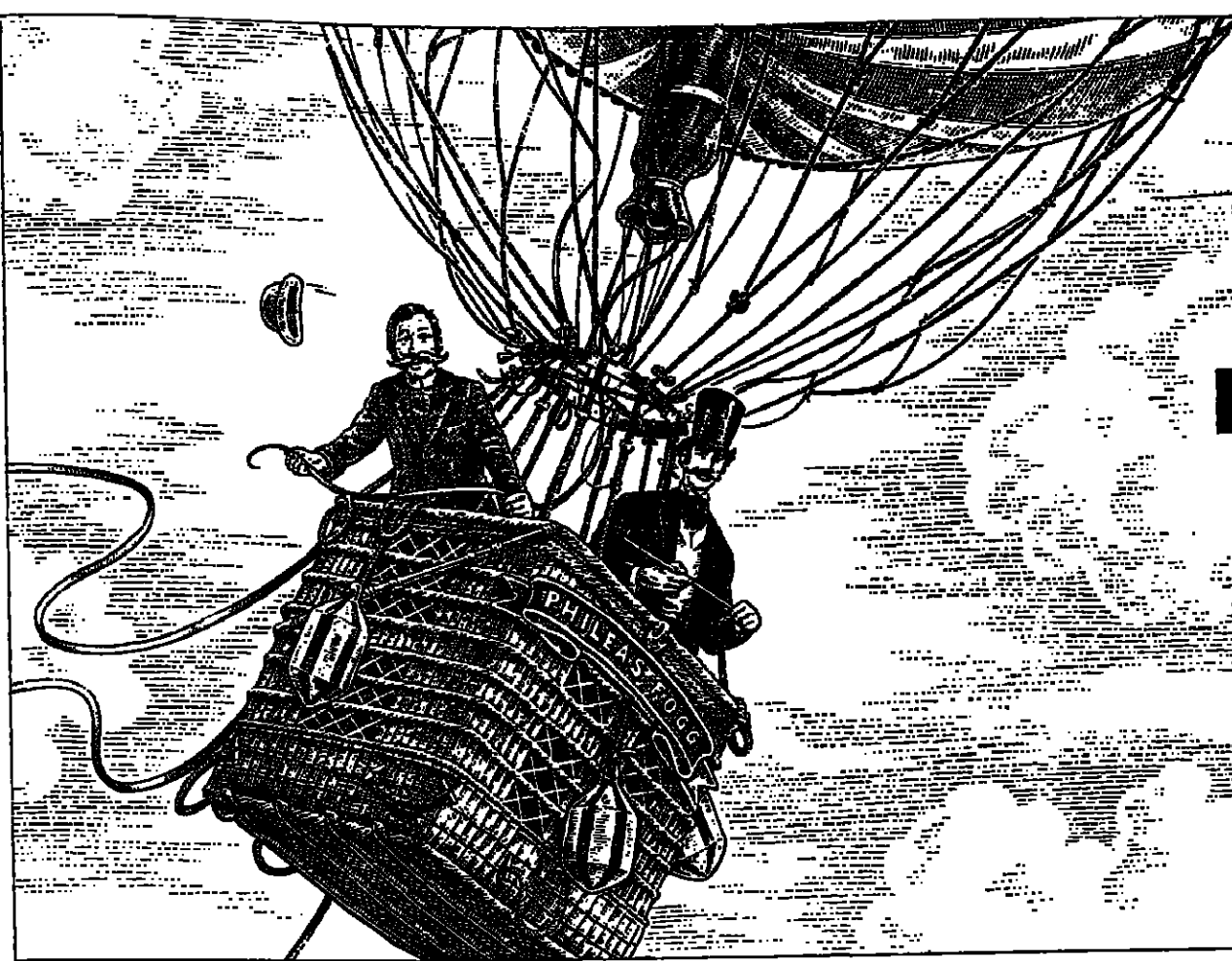
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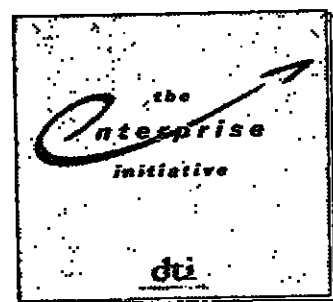
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# TIMES DIARY BARBARA AMIEL

For the past week I have been moving and most of my time has been spent in negotiating bribes with various tradesmen. It has been a fascinating adventure in cultural anthropology.

Between the Old World and the New World, for example, the differences are largely organizational. North America is a free enterprise society and you deliver service to the customer or he goes elsewhere. Even such publicly owned companies as the telephone service in Canada are acutely sensitive to their rare, monopolistic status and apologize for keeping a customer waiting three days lest the regulatory authorities swoop.

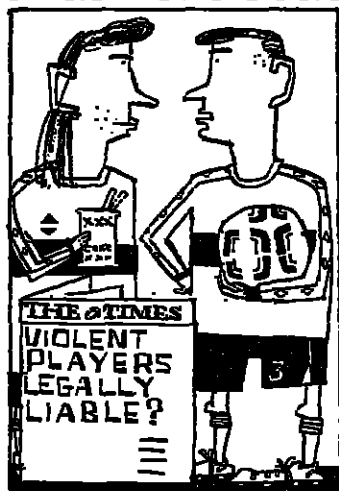
British Telecom, on the other hand, gives good service—but only at a price. That's not quite the same as getting no service at all unless you pay a price—but the distinction is perhaps finer than most of us would want. After five weeks, I am still on a waiting list for a new number. But for £315 I was able to transfer my old out-of-exchange number immediately. I couldn't get a line for my alarm system, but for a premium fee I can have the special new British Telecom 24-hour alarm service attached to my £315 line.

Then there are the psychological differences between communities. At dinner last Saturday night I listened to an extraordinarily successful Middle East businessman who was recounting a problem that had shades of "The Merchant of Venice". An Italian businessman had 5 million crasers for sale at 15 cents each. The Arab businessman offered him 2.5 cents for the lot on a cash basis. The Italian swallowed, gulped and agreed.

The Italian had bought the crasers in Hong Kong for 1 cent and imported them into Italy at a declared price of 5 cents. That way, when he sold them for, say, 10 cents, he would only have to pay tax on a declared profit of 5 cents, rather than the true profit of 9 cents. Now he had to explain to Italian customs why he was exporting them for half what he was supposed to have paid for them. He solved the problem by having a bill certifying the crasers had been damaged by fire. That still left me puzzled. "What," I asked the Middle Easterner, "could you do with 15 million crasers in your country, which has a population of about 14 million?" He seemed surprised by the question. "We sold them in weeks," he said. "There are always shortages."

I found the story intensely interesting on a number of levels. I think it was Edward Banfield or Luigi Barzini who made the point that it is not that Italians lack ethics—on the contrary, it is simply that the "community" in Italy is no larger than an individual's family. It is only a slight exaggeration to say that while in England one would not lose honour for failing to give a nephew a job, in Italy you might. An Italian risks no loss of honour for cheating on his income tax, but I can't imagine an Italian taking bread from his children's mouth to give money to the government.

BARRY FANTONI



"I thought he was showing me the red card, but it was actually a list of solicitors."

All these experiences have led me to brood on today's Budget. There is a relationship, I believe, between all those £10 notes I have had to fork out for workmen performing "special services" and the inexplicable excitement everyone seems to have over a Budget in which basic personal income tax will "drop" to somewhere over 20 per cent for every working person and from there go ever upwards.

I suppose if we expect the Government to provide services ranging from deciding which postwar buildings are historically interesting to monitoring the offensiveness of television advertising, all of us will have to have an occupation on the side to keep any money for ourselves. All this plus the horror of the VAT system seems to be behind the willingness of so many people to cheat the Government. One complaining tradesman told me that the authorities were so remorseless in their pursuit of his earnings that cheating was his sole defence against an arbitrary force that did nothing but restrict, redistribute and regulate his efforts in the name of some common good.

People really don't feel like working unless they work for themselves, which is, I suppose, the ultimate in privatization. But it still seems paradoxical to me that the whole great machinery of government, set up for altruistic goals of social justice, are simply conditioning individuals to become more selfish and dishonest.

I can't resist a note of gloom at the reported discomfort of the judges in the £220,000 Templeton Prize for Religion. The judges, who include the Archbishop of York, and Sir Geoffrey Howe have given the award to Dr Inamullah Khan, Director-General of the World Muslim Congress. The prize is for the promotion of religious harmony, but apparently Dr Khan has not denied an affinity for promoting the awful revisionist view of the Holocaust.

Surely it must have been self-evident to our churchmen and intellectuals that the Muslim faith is not in the forefront of the ecumenical movement? I rather like a robust religion myself, and while I would have no idea about the attitudes of Muslims to the Holocaust, I do know they have at the very least a "crusading" religion. Perhaps the judges were reluctant to make the necessary close checks on Dr Khan for fear of seeming biased. These are difficult times.

Too much fuss is made about the Budget. It is fêted by the press as a uniquely special event in the financial calendar, apparently in the belief that it determines the course of the economy for the coming year. The imposing phrase, the "Budget judgement", reflects the arbitral role it has traditionally played in British economic policy.

In fact, the Budget judgement relates to only one part of policy, the decision about how much demand to withdraw or inject into the economy by tax changes. In present circumstances this decision is secondary to the central issues of economic management. Mr Lawson's main problem in March 1988 is to slow down the economy to a sustainable rate of growth. Since the present boom can be convincingly explained by the remarkable surge in credit and money growth over the past three years, it is monetary policy that ought to have priority in today's Budget.

There is some irony in the need to remind Mr Lawson about the importance of the monetary aggregates. In the early 1980s, during his period as Financial Secretary to the Treasury, he cultivated a reputation as a keen student of monetary

Tim Congdon advises a Budget that steps on the monetary brakes

## Lawson's perilous boom

policy and was widely regarded as a hot-spelling monetarist. Now, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, he says very little about monetary subjects and is scornful of monetarist advice. A certain convenient forgetfulness may sometimes be helpful and even excusable in a political career, but Mr Lawson's intellectual somersault has been unusually abrupt.

His recantation of the monetarist creed can be dated to the Budget of March 1985, which denied that there was any "mechanistic formula" about "the appropriate combination of monetary growth and the exchange rate needed to keep financial policy on track". Two months later he said that the significance of M3—the broad measure of money, which includes bank deposits—had "somewhat diminished". This chimed in with much contemporaneous media comment that

M3 had become "meaningless". In 1986 and 1987, with broad money no longer attracting official attention, the growth of bank credit gathered pace. In late 1987 bank lending was expanding at an annualized rate of almost 25 per cent. Since every new bank loan creates a new bank deposit, it was not surprising that M3 growth should rise steadily. By early 1988 it amounted to over 20 per cent on a year earlier.

It should also not have been surprising, after this degree of monetary stimulus, that demand and output should begin to grow very fast. Mr Lawson may have been sincere in his remarks about the diminution of M3, but in truth they were rather peculiar. Since virtually all large payments are made into and out of bank accounts, bank deposits are as essential to a modern economy as coal to a steam engine or sunshine to the wea-

ther. They cannot be "meaningless" and their significance "cannot diminish". It was therefore altogether logical that the monetary boom which started in late 1985 should drive a wider economic boom in 1987, with national output rising by about 5 per cent.

The boom in economic activity shows no sign of coming to an end, while abundant evidence of overheating has emerged in the property and labour markets, and the balance of payments has moved decisively into the red. Mr Lawson's main task today is to halt the boom. He must moderate the growth rate to the 2.5-3 per cent level that can be comfortably maintained over the medium term. Just as the boom in output growth can be attributed to a well-defined acceleration in credit expansion and higher money growth, so the return to a sustainable medium-term path will require a marked

deceleration in credit expansion and slower money growth.

The scale of the task facing Mr Lawson is best illustrated with the help of a few numbers. Broadly speaking, the 5 per cent inflation rate of the mid-1980s can be regarded as a by-product of the Government's success in limiting the growth of broad money to about 11 per cent a year between mid-1982 and mid-1985. If inflation is to be held to 5 per cent in future, broad money growth needs to be roughly halved from its current level. Since bank lending is the motor of monetary expansion, it also needs to be halved.

Bank lending is at present running at about £4 billion a month or almost £50 billion a year. If it is agreed that there is a link between credit and money, and that there is also some connection (not necessarily very precise) between money, economic activity and inflation, Mr

Lawson needs to explain how he intends to halve the annual bank lending total from £50 billion to £25 billion. The Thatcher Government is rightly opposed to direct restrictions on bank credit, since such restrictions reduce financial efficiency. The only remaining weapon is an increase in interest rates. It is inescapable, in view of the wide gap between present credit demand and the acceptable rate of non-inflationary credit growth over the medium term, that the appropriate level of interest rates is much higher than today's.

By comparison with these numbers, the Budget judgement is incidental. No doubt the floors of top mandarins' rooms in the Treasury have recently been strewn with computer printouts which contrast the results of tax cuts of £1 billion and £5 billion. But the differences between them are overshadowed by larger, more volatile and more powerful fluctuations in bank credit to the private sector. Mr Lawson will be making a mistake if he devotes this afternoon to the sideshow of fiscal policy, and neglects the central role of monetary policy.

The author is chief UK economist at Shearson Lehman Brothers, the securities house.

T.E. Utley

## The oldest professional myth

It is the business of journalists to simplify, and, in the process of doing so, it is inevitable that they should quite often over-simplify. Although we are a highly competitive lot, we have some professional *esprit de corps* based on common fear of being found out by the public, so we are on the whole disinclined to triumph over the occasional misjudgements of our colleagues.

It is, therefore, in no spirit of reprehension that I hazard the opinion that much of the press somewhat misinterpreted last week's Green Paper, *Review of Restrictive Trade Practices Policy*. The general impression seemed to be that the paper was chiefly concerned to herald a full-scale crusade against the misdemeanours of the professions. Mrs Thatcher, having already done much to breathe the spirit of competition into industry and commerce, was now, with handbag at the ready, going to set about the fat cats of Harley Street and the Inns of Court. They would no longer be able, within the safe precincts of their ancient citadels of privilege, to plot nasty ways of exploiting the public in the name of "respectable professional standards".

It seems to me that the Green Paper was rather different. Its highly complicated proposals, if I got them right, were designed to bring up to date the rather outmoded and extremely elaborate legislation against restrictive practices introduced over 30 years ago.

That legislation, it would seem, compelled everybody not specifically exempted from its operation to register a whole host of agreements with the Office of Fair Trading, even when those agreements were palpably not restrictive in their effects. In future the Government would like the criteria for registration to be much simpler than they are and to concentrate not on the form of the agreement so much as on its effects—can it be argued that it would produce unjustifiable restraints on competition and

(or) unwarrantably high prices for the consumer?

Another object of the suggested new legislation is to bring our practices in line with those enforced by the European Community. Why, you may ask, should this be necessary since, as we all know (to the immense chagrin of some of us), the Community law on economic matters is already automatically incorporated in British law? Well, the answer seems to be that in order to catch a British cartel under Community law you have to prove that its actions are damaging foreign competitors within the Community. The Government wants protection to be extended to British customers against British producers.

It is only quite late on in the document that a short section is devoted specifically to the professions. What it amounts to is that several of these institutions have up to the present enjoyed blanket exemptions in relation to their arguably restrictive practices. Now they will have to come out into the open and justify any measure which seems on the face of it to be a restraint of trade. The high minded arguments will have to be put to the test of public scrutiny.

The suggested legislation does of course contain some familiar and alarming elements. In order to prevent the doctors, the lawyers and the like from getting up to mischief by secret collusion in such forms as winks and nods over the dinner table, the Office of Fair Trading will take to itself draconian powers of investigation such as those currently exercised by VAT men and income tax collectors.

The Government's readiness to contemplate such powers (one might add to the list those which the police have appropriated without proper parliamentary approval in relation to drunk-driving tests), is truly appalling. It casts doubt on the understanding which some of Mrs Thatcher's colleagues have of her favourite concept—the rule of law. In



relation to such matters as suppression of a private vice, such as homosexual behaviour, we have for years been told that any merit the measures might have is offset by the invasions of privacy they imply and the opportunities for blackmail they create. These are, on the whole, sound arguments and their benefit should be extended, within reason, to those suspected of economic and financial offences.

However, the fact remains that these legislative proposals are not unduly radical and do not, therefore, contain any particularly new dangers to the cause of freedom. They are, indeed, as you may have already gathered, rather boring. What is interesting, however, is why they

should have been misinterpreted as a dramatic further instalment of the philosophy misnamed as "Thatcherism".

This is largely the result of the continuing influence in Conservative circles of what is called "the new right". This collection of up-and-coming politicians and publicists share many characteristics with their socialist enemies—a disgusting sort of snobbery (the new right despises the professions in order to adulterate industries and commerce, just as socialist intellectuals despise industry and commerce in order to adulterate those activities which do not ostentatiously depend on the profit motive).

The catch phrase of the new

right is "consumer sovereignty". We are most of us both producers and consumers, and there is no reason why our rights in one capacity should always take precedence over our rights in the other. If I perceive a vast and profitable public demand for journalism which I regard as cheap and dishonourable, I am under no moral obligation to satisfy it, though I must, of course, accept the financial consequences of not doing so.

A lawyer does not have an overriding obligation to his client; he has an overriding obligation to the law, just as a doctor has an overriding obligation to medicine, not to his patient. If lawyers or doctors get together in professional associations for the

protection both of their ethical standards and their economic interests, I can see no objection in principle to their doing so. This of course is provided that they have not the power (which only Parliament can give them) to exclude others from practising according to their own whims. I must be free to despise the certificate of approval given by the BMA to my doctor and turn instead to a witch doctor. However, certificates of approval conferred by well-established institutions are a valuable aid to consumers in making their choice.

Underlying all this anti-professionalism is of course a far older "liberal" suspicion of all voluntary associations. These associations, unlike local government, which has become a source of unrepresentative tyranny, have a genuine part to play in the preservation of liberty in a society in which economic relationships are based (as they ought to be) on contract rather than status. The extent of restrictive practices in the ancient professions is wildly exaggerated; perhaps some of those practices should be abolished, and some of them should be exempted from properly conducted public examination.

But anti-professional venom and hysteria are temptations against which I would presume to warn Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues. I even think that the Government's suspicion of associations within the community is being pressed a little too far in relation to trade unions. I am inclined to agree with Lord Prior that it is wrong to deprive unions of the right to discipline members who refuse to strike after a free and secret ballot has ordered a strike. No one should be deprived of the right to work, but that does not necessarily mean that everyone should be protected against the authority of institutions which they have freely agreed to join, or of which they have freely decided to remain members.

Commentary • TONY BLAIR

## Europe's challenge

The Italians, apparently, talk about it in bars. The Germans discuss it over breakfast. Eighty per cent of the French are conversant with it. By contrast, the British barely recognize its existence. On Friday, belatedly, our Government will start a campaign about it—"it" being the Internal Market, the attempt to create a single market in goods and services for all EEC states by 1992. It is industry's Big Bang, and without careful preparation and a strong government lead Britain will be a sleepy tortoise racing a wide-awake hare.

The dream of an Internal Market is certainly not unambitious in its breadth. The abolition of such barriers as customs checks, and the standardization of technical regulations for products, is obvious. But proposals include a massive opening up of the financial services sector; a general system of mutually recognized professional qualifications, huge changes in broadcasting and technology and the end of national bias in public procurement policy, which accounts for 15-20 per cent of Community GDP. On top of that, there are plans for fiscal harmonization; most notoriously VAT.

Indeed, the dream is becoming reality. Of the 300 proposals originally made by the Commission, 80 have been agreed. Plainly one first essential is to distinguish between those elements of the Internal Market with which we can take issue, such as VAT, and those which, in principle, are progressive. However, having done that, we must then address ourselves to the fact that a very substantial measure of change, amounting to a revolution in our methods of

trade, is virtually unavoidable. Without question there will be opportunities. But there will also be dangers. Our services and manufacturing industries will face a challenge of immense proportions. It cannot succeed without government playing a full participating, interventionist role, as those of other member states are doing now. Internal Market minus industrial policy equals catastrophe.

Big business has little to fear and much to gain. Twenty-five of the largest European companies have already formed a "European Round Table" to report on the progress of the Internal Market. Many of them, together with the major financial institutions, have set up special units monitoring the changes. In fact, they are not merely well-placed to accommodate the new market; they will dominate it if member states are not careful.

The smaller and medium-sized businesses will require an active government to even the scale. In the areas of research and development, training, science and technology, these firms, in particular, will have to make fundamental adjustments. They will also have to be educated as to the changes that will come within their own sectors—where they will face new competition, where they might make new sales, where they may have to rationalize and where to expand. The Government should therefore be demanding tough regulatory measures to provide real competition and to protect the consumer. It should also be ensuring that many of the standards adopted by the Internal Market are British, or we will find ourselves trading to German or French requirements.

Otherwise, small and medium businesses will be flattened and the consumer with them. The Internal Market is bound to lead to the concentration of capital. There have been almost 70 major European takeovers in the past two years and this pattern is surely set to intensify. A deregulated Internal Market, as opposed to one in which regulation is uniform, will result in monopoly and abuse of power.

Most of all, the Government should not forget that its first duty is to represent the people who elect it. These are not Little Englander sentiments. They apply equally to the other member states. Their interests do not coincide, and will often conflict, with the interests of the immensely powerful economic organization which the Internal Market will create.

That means giving special attention to regional policy—investment will be essential if the regions are to compete on equal terms. It also means that social policy issues—unemployment, poverty, discrimination—should be on the agenda for EEC change, as well as matters concerning "the market".

For my generation, war with Europe is now unthinkable, a part of history. Closer co-operation is desirable and inevitable. But enthusiasm should be considered, not romantic. It should take full account of the necessity to do the best for Britain in preparing for an Internal Market and, in the long run, should not confuse the wellbeing of the people of Europe with that of their most powerful economic players. A "free" market is not the same as a "fair" one.

The author is Labour MP for Sedgfield.

SCIENCE REPORT

## First factory?

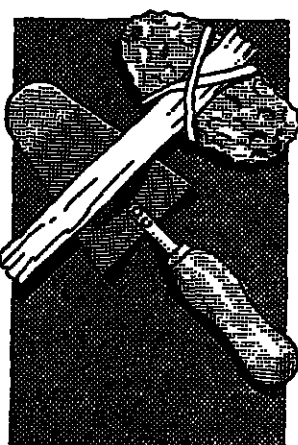
A quarry near the Sussex village of Boxgrove is without doubt the earliest known occupied site in Britain, in the opinion of Mark Roberts, director of the excavation of a Stone Age flint-knapping factory there. Its importance has been increasingly recognized in the past four years.

Roberts told an enthralled audience at the Institute of Archaeology in London last week how the site has been used to reconstruct what life was like for people, animals and plants on the Sussex coast nearly half a million years ago. The excavation is supported by English Heritage with encouragement from the quarry owners.

Proof that the Boxgrove site is older than at first thought has come from an unlikely source: the remains of the microscopic marine plants called ostracods. The dominant species at Boxgrove turns out to be one known to have become extinct 450,000 years ago, which means that the animal and plant remains at the site must have been deposited at a still earlier date.

At the centre of the Boxgrove finds are the magnificent stone tools, particularly hand-axes known as Acheulean after the technique by which they are made. Those working on the excavation are especially excited by being able to reconstruct the methods by which the tools were manufactured.

Much of the site seems to have been the shop-floor of a hand-axe factory. Flint flakes



John Lawson

were found lying undisturbed, as if freshly worked, since being discarded by Stone Age craftsmen. Those working the site have managed to piece together finished tools and discarded flakes to show, in the smallest detail, how a hand-axe was made.

Modern flint-knappers were asked to re-enact the process, roughing out blanks from flint nodules with stone hammers and finishing the tools with implements made from bone or antler. The replicas were then used to skin and butcher deer and sheep carcasses. Roberts says this aspect of the work at Boxgrove is particularly pleasing because it helps the researchers get closer to the Stone Age craftsmen.

The natural environment of the flint-knapping factory has also been richly reconstructed. A census of the plants, land snails and tiny crustaceans

called ostracods shows that the site, close to the sea, was open, damp and marshy, but with mixed broadleaf woodland close by. This is borne out by the richness of the vertebrate fauna, pointing to great ecological diversity.

Mallard and moorhens used the local streams and ponds, as did bass, eel and pike. There were Bechstein's bats in the nearby woods, which also sheltered wolves, bear, bison and four species of deer.

But the smaller mammals have provided the biggest surprises. Researchers have sieved 14,000kg of sediment from the past two years, looking for the minute bones and teeth of rodents and insectivores, many of which have been examined by Simon Parfitt and Andrew Currant at the Natural History Museum in London.

Some of the finds, such as birch mouse and European mink, are unknown at any British Pleistocene site. The birch mouse lives today in parts of eastern Europe but is extinct in Britain. A general feature of the fauna is its archaic nature compared with fauna associated with other Acheulean cultures, such as at the Swanscombe site in Kent. Indeed, the archaic composition of the fauna, including the long-extinct *Elasmus rhinoceros* and other ancient forms, first suggested to the Boxgrove researchers that theirs was more than just another Stone Age site.

HENRY GEE

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## IN ISRAEL'S INTERESTS

The United States, said the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shamir, when he arrived in Washington yesterday, has always been helpful, open and indispensable. On the eve of his departure, he had displayed quite another attitude, dismissing Mr Shultz's plan for regional talks as hopelessly flawed and inimical to Israel's interests.

The contrast suggests that Mr Shamir feels he is playing a strong hand — stronger perhaps than the warm reception accorded to his Foreign Minister, Mr Peres, in many world capitals would suggest. Mr Peres is in favour of Mr Shultz's scheme which timetables elective autonomy in the occupied territories and a conference to decide their final status. Mr Shamir has been against it from the start. The two men, currently in discordant coalition, will probably lead their parties into an election later in the year.

This election, and the electoral timetable in the United States, may have dictated the haste with which Mr Shultz has built into his proposals. Mr Shamir's intransigence means, however, that the US Secretary of State faces the bleak prospect of leaving office having demonstrated little more than the continued willingness of the United States to act as an honest broker in the Middle East. But even this would be better than inadvertently tipping the balance in Mr Shamir's favour as President Reagan's Administration draws to its close.

Since the beginning of the disturbances in the occupied territories, American Jews have been divided in their response to television pictures of Israeli soldiers (and settlers) in action against Palestinian rioters. Some may put pressure on Mr Shamir to temper his government's conduct in the West Bank and Gaza, but they will not necessarily require him to revise his opposition to an international peace conference.

The US Administration will probably not exert even this pressure on Mr Shamir to accept the Shultz plan. President Reagan has

already said that US aid to Israel will not be used to persuade. This leaves Mr Shamir free to make up his own mind — which is probably how it should be. The state of public opinion inside Israel suggests that American leverage, if applied with too heavy a hand, might simply bolster Mr Shamir's support at home. That in turn could leave him in undisputed control of government in Jerusalem by the end of the year — with Mr Peres out in the cold.

This is a grim outlook, for the reality has not changed. Israel cannot occupy and half-govern the West Bank and Gaza indefinitely: the price of both maintaining and eventually ending the occupation rises with each year. Palestinian grievances apart, the territories pose a long-term threat to Israel's survival which is greater than an exchange of land for peace. It is unlikely that this threat can be reduced without the involvement of the Arab countries of the region and the superpowers.

The Arab countries are — with the exception of Egypt — poised to strengthen Mr Shamir's ideas and others may follow his example. This would give Mr Shamir the excuse he seeks not even to put the US proposals to the vote inside the Israeli Cabinet. Mr Shultz will be assailed by calls to work on Israeli obduracy, but he might be better employed working on the short-sightedness of Arab governments.

He might also work on the Soviet Union. No plan for an international conference can succeed — even if it surmounted the current obstacles — unless the United States and the Soviet Union concur on the essentials of the agreement they would like to see. If Moscow nudged its clients towards compromise, it might at last be in Washington's power to help ensure that Israel did the same. With Mr Gorbachev revising Soviet commitments all over the world in order to leave himself more resources at home, this is not such a distant prospect as it might once have seemed.

## PENNIES AND POUNDS AT DEFENCE

The Ministry of Defence has come to sound like the recidivist in an old *Punch* cartoon: the more often he appears before the beak, the more loudly he protests his intention to go straight. The MoD's promises of good conduct increase in volume with each successive appearance before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), but still — on the evidence of PAC hearings and a new National Audit Office report — the cost overruns and the signs of managerial slackness abound.

Mr Peter Levene, who was sent by the former Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, to overhaul defence procurement, has been left making the time-honoured promise to try harder. In any other circumstances, both the public and MPs might be tempted to sniff and send the offender down. But just now Mr Levene deserves the benefit of the doubt.

It is not just that he has now settled into his job as chief of defence procurement and has every incentive to make administrative history by tightening the management of public money. In a few weeks he will be joined at the MoD by Mr Michael Quinlan, a new permanent secretary, who has few preconceived ideas about how the ministry should operate.

Another beneficial influence on the handling of contracts is likely to be Dr John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor General. Not only does he know where the bodies are buried in his old ministry (poachers making good gamekeepers), but he has every incentive to make his reputation as the legislature's chief auditor by demonstrating his independence of his former colleagues.

The Ministry may have been unfortunate in its public relations. The reports which were bunched together last week related to events of several years ago and Mr Levene was right to remind the PAC that the financial consequences of an earlier generation of cost-plus contracts have still to work through the

procurement process. The Audit Office's evidence about fraudulent expenses claims by civilian ordnance searchers similarly refers back several years, and there is good reason to hope that payments have been curtailed since.

Yet the Public Accounts Committee was right to demand a better explanation of why there had been no disciplinary action, let alone any criminal prosecution as a result of the accountants' disclosures. There are occasions when prosecution is necessary, almost regardless of the likelihood of success, in order to establish the seriousness with which an offence is regarded by the authorities. The discovery of systematic theft of many thousands of pounds of public money on the ranges was one of them.

Cost-effective management and value for public money are goals which are universally approved, and the continued scrutiny of MoD budgets by the auditors and the Public Accounts Committee is to be encouraged. Yet the amount of criticism visited upon the ministry's officials during the past few days prompts the suspicion that such reports have become too ready a vehicle for those who dislike defence expenditure in general and the (necessarily expensive) maintenance of the Armed Forces in particular.

There is a sense, too, in which these Audit Office reports are being used as a substitute for the discussions of principle which ought to take place as part of a formal defence review. It is intellectually and politically easier to criticize Civil Servants for cost overruns than to tease out the question of what the nation's defence profile for the 1990s ought to be.

The recent Audit Office report on the cost of transferring the Royal Dockyards to commercial management presented the small print. The question of the country's comprehensive plans for naval defence and the matching of on-shore support and fleet capabilities was not asked. The public is right to be worried about where the pennies go, but it needs also to question the destination of the pounds.

## ITALY'S SECOND FORCE

The resignation of the personable Signor Giovanni Goria should be a matter not only for regret but for alarm. The Italian political system has shown itself yet again incapable of producing and sustaining a stable central government.

Signor Goria's third, and presumably final, resignation in seven months was forced on him by the conspiracies woven by his own Christian Democratic Party. Its members consistently sabotaged his budget Bill under the cover of the secret parliamentary vote.

All the major parties in Italy now agree that the period of revolving-door governments must come to an end. The sophisticated economy, which is faltering under the weight of a huge public sector deficit (equivalent to 12 per cent of gross domestic product), needs sophisticated government. Yet radical political reform — modifying the proportional representation system, streamlining the chambers of parliament — requires strong and durable leadership.

President Francesco Cossiga is following the precedent of recent years in trying to put together a five-party coalition led by the Christian Democrats in partnership with the smaller Socialist Party of Signor Bettino Craxi. This is the only possible combination if the Communists are to be excluded from power. The involvement of so many different parties, however, invites the making and breaking of factions devoted to small sectional interests.

After so many government crises, perhaps it is time to ask a new question: should the Italian Communists be permanently kept in the cold? The Christian Democrats, the largest party (with 34 per cent of the vote), have been in power since the war. The only changes have been in the complexion of the coalition partners. A book published yesterday by the

Italian sociologist, Professor Franco Cazzola, shows that this power has bred patterns of corruption throughout the country.

The Communist Party is the second largest party (with 26 per cent of the vote) in Italy. As such, it deserves a chance to take part in national leadership. It is committed to the Constitution; it has shown itself an able and generally uncorrupt governor in provincial Italy, and it maintains a more critical distance from the Soviet Communist Party, even under Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, than some Western socialist parties. Most recently it embarrassed Prague and Moscow by publishing a long interview with Alexander Dubcek. Moreover, the party's research team has come up with challenging, realistic and undogmatic ideas about tackling unemployment and the development of southern Italy.

The logic of excluding the Communists has always been embedded in *Realpolitik*. How can the Nato alliance, it is asked, support a member state which is run by a Communist Party? But the question should be put differently. Is it really in Nato's interests that Italian governments collapse with such frequency?

The Communists, in alliance with the Socialist Party — and perhaps with Signor Craxi at the helm — could form a credible and creditable centre-left government. It would not solve all Italy's problems. The Communist inclination to spend their way out of crises would have to be reined in; so would any dogmatic egalitarianism that discouraged Italy's successful private sector.

A Communist-led Government could turn out to be a practical government with good ideas. And the cold bath of opposition might refresh the tired Christian Democratic Party. The right to government has to be earned.

## Long shadow of a single market

From Mr W. Gray  
Sir, The year 1992, that important milestone in Europe's history which is to see the establishment of a single internal market, is rather more than "something of an act of faith" ("Economic View", March 7). Increasingly, it is casting its shadow before.

On the Continent, talk about the creation of a European central bank managing a European currency is already in full swing. Its consummation, if 1992 — which the EC Commissioner for Internal Trade, Lord Cockfield, has rightly compared to the creation of a single European economy — means anything, seems a foregone conclusion.

What remains at issue is a European central bank's role and venue. Regarding the latter, a recent report by the Brussels-based Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) has, at least for part of the role, come out in favour of London as "the natural choice". But, unless we are careful, Frankfurt, base of the main pillar of the European Monetary System (EMS), may beat us to it.

"Much of industry in Britain", observed your Economics Editor with an eye to 1992, "still has its head firmly buried in the sand on this side of the Channel". Alas, the British Government, or a central part of it, is not entirely blameless in that respect, either. In particular, as also urged by the CEPS, full membership of the EMS — the nearest thing to the Chancellor's proposed "managed floating" — is vital, among other things, for success in the European central bank stakes and the prizes they offer.

Two further things are needed: a positive British initiative, in place of the traditional but costly fee-dragging, for the speediest possible establishment of a European central bank itself — it will, because it must, come sooner or later anyhow — and another one for international monetary reform generally, dedicated (like the EMS) to exchange rate stability and all that goes with it.

For a country celebrated as the co-architect of the Bretton Woods system, whose surviving centre-piece, the IMF, remains the best world central bank we have, such a mission, designed to save itself,

Europe and the rest of the world by example and exertions combined, seems eminently fitting this side of 1992.  
Yours faithfully,  
W. GRAY,  
12 Arden Road, N3.

From Mr Ben Patterson, MEP for Kent West (European Democrat (Conservative))  
Sir, In the controversy over European Community Commissioner Lord Cockfield's "fiscal approximation" proposals, the example of the United States is increasingly being cited as a reason for rejection. "The US", you state in your "Economic View", "after all has managed to struggle along quite successfully despite having widely varying rates of sales tax in different states".

Detailed consideration of sales tax rates in the different states, however, should lead to the opposite conclusion. The maximum spread of rates is between zero (Oregon, Montana, New Hampshire, Delaware) and 7.5 per cent (Connecticut). The biggest variation over a state line (i.e., a fiscal frontier) is 6.5 per cent (Washington/Oregon or Montana). Most state rates fall between 4 per cent and 6 per cent.

The spread of VAT rates in the European Community is markedly wider. The standard rate varies by 13 per cent (12 per cent in Spain and Luxembourg, 25 per cent in Ireland). The maximum variation in the standard rate over a frontier is 10 per cent (UK 15 per cent; Ireland 25 per cent). But much wider variations exist in the case of certain goods, and services: for example, basic foods (zero) in the UK, 25 per cent in Denmark; and several countries have "luxury" rates on goods like consumer electronics (Italy 28 per cent, Greece 36 per cent, Belgium, France and Spain 33 per cent).

It is precisely in order to reduce these variations to US levels that the Commission is proposing a 6 per cent maximum spread of the VAT rates on any goods or service. It should not be forgotten, either, that distances are far greater in the US, reducing the profitability of "shopping around" for tax reasons.  
Yours faithfully,  
BEN PATTERSON,  
Elm Hill House, Hawkhurst, Nr Cranbrook, Kent.

## Sterling opportunity

From Mr J. A. Shackles  
Sir, With sterling's current appreciation because of overseas interest in the UK economy and interest-rate differential an opportunity exists for the Chancellor to discard once and for all the 2 per cent historically built into sterling interest rates to support the currency against speculators (which it never did and which is inappropriate in the light of sustained economic improvement).

This would (i) bring UK rates more into line with world rates; (ii) provide industry with more competitive finance and benefit export trade; (iii) reduce the

interest-rate differential and therefore the currency's ongoing upward bias.

The result, I believe, would (a), contrary to popular belief, have no more than the very briefest upward effect on consumer credit; (b) have a beneficial effect on the RPI through lower mortgage rates and therefore, (c) reduce wage demands to more realistic levels and nearer to prevailing inflation rates.

The Chancellor surely has a golden opportunity to take the sterling bill by the horns.  
Yours faithfully,  
J. A. SHACKLES,  
2 Warren Close,  
Rayleigh, Essex.

## Erosion of benefits

From Dr S. MacPherson and Mr M. Svenson  
Sir, The changes to which Mr Nicholas Scott refers in "Charter for self respect" (March 8) have in fact been taking place since the Social Security Act was passed in 1986. It is grossly misleading, although strictly accurate, to state that 88 per cent of claimants will be better off, or no worse off, as a result of the Act. This compares April 10, 1988, with April 11, 1988, and is a comparison of benefits in cash, not real terms.

Claimants have had their benefit position worsened since 1986. Additional requirements (extra weekly payments for special needs) have been frozen and mortgage interest assistance for owner-occupiers has been halved. Expenditure on single payments (lump sum grants for exceptional needs) was approaching £400m a year in 1986. Legal changes in August that year subsequently halved expenditure.

The DHSS admit that none of their estimates of the effect of the Act include the partial, and soon to be complete, removal of single payments. For many claimants, especially single parents and couples with children, single payments constitute a vital component of overall income.

Research undertaken in this unit shows that the switch from Supplementary Benefit to Income Support will bring an improvement in real terms to only 17 per cent of claimants. Mr Scott has been highly selective in his choice of statistics and his point of focus. He gives specific accuracy at the expense of general truth.  
Yours sincerely,  
STEWART MACPHERSON  
(Director),  
MARK SVENSON,  
Benefits Research Unit,  
University of Nottingham,  
Department of Social Administration,  
Nottingham NG7 2RD.

## Abortion reform

From Sir John Peel  
Sir, There appears to be a misunderstanding in Lord Brightman's letter (March 7). Doctors have always found the need to terminate pregnancies after 28 weeks' gestation, if the life of the pregnant woman was at risk or if continuation of the pregnancy would inflict permanent damage to her health.

This need is far less than it used to be, thanks to medical advances. However, when this need does arise after the 28th week of gestation it is incumbent on the doctor not only to protect the mother but also to save the life of the child if it is born alive.

This procedure, therefore, by definition cannot be classified as an abortion the avowed object of which is to ensure that the foetus does not survive. To speak of carrying out an abortion on a woman who, for example, is 32 or 34 weeks pregnant is a misuse of language.  
Yours,  
JOHN PEEL,  
Geant Trees,  
78 Countess Road,  
Amesbury, Wiltshire.

These changes mean that the real value of benefits has been consistently eroded. Ignoring this deterioration of benefit provision allows the changes enacted in April to be given an ameliorative appearance. Present claimants will receive "transitional protection" in April to prevent their weekly income being less under the new rules. This is why Mr Scott can claim his 88 per cent. However, it is transitional and claimants' benefits have already been worsened and will continue to worsen in real terms from April 11 onwards.

Research undertaken in this unit shows that the switch from Supplementary Benefit to Income Support will bring an improvement in real terms to only 17 per cent of claimants. Mr Scott has been highly selective in his choice of statistics and his point of focus. He gives specific accuracy at the expense of general truth.  
Yours sincerely,  
STEWART MACPHERSON  
(Director),  
MARK SVENSON,  
Benefits Research Unit,  
University of Nottingham,  
Department of Social Administration,  
Nottingham NG7 2RD.

## Afghan talks

From Mr Keith Mans, MP for Wyre (Conservative)  
Sir, I am sure your readers will be delighted to see that the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Zamyatin, is entering the debate on Afghanistan so actively in your columns (March 5) — a positive indication indeed of *glasnost*. Nevertheless, his letter is addressed to the paperwork of negotiation, not the reality on the ground.

His country has over 100,000 troops, backed by formidable air power, occupying a small foreign country, a third of whose population has fled in the face of unbelievable (and largely unreported) brutality. Resistance, however, remains fierce from Afghans of all classes.

It would be shameful if the Western powers were to press Pakistan to agree terms unacceptable to the Mujahidin, who know how vulnerable they would be if their supply of foreign arms were severed, while the Soviets continue to sustain their puppets in Kabul.  
Yours etc,  
KEITH MANS,  
House of Commons.

## Putting Turner Bequest at risk

From Dr Selby Whittingham  
Sir, May I ask what will be the position of the Turner Bequest under the proposed legislation to enable the National, Tate and National Portrait galleries to sell pictures from their collections? Even if that has provisions against breaking the terms of gifts and bequests, the situation with regard to Turner's is unclear.

The present situation seems to be that the authorities think it quite legal to disregard the terms of Turner's will (in 1861 the House of Lords, however, took a quite different view). They say he only bequeathed his 100 or so finished pictures, and even these were received by a Chancery decree that did not specify that they had to be treated as the artist's will directed. Will it therefore become legal to sell off all the

## Gibraltar incident

From Mr David Green  
Sir, It is not in our interest that all the information possessed by the security forces in Britain, Spain and Gibraltar should become public knowledge. But in any event the facts which have emerged should suffice to allow a judgement of what they did.

We know, and it is apparent that the security forces knew, that the three people gunned down in Gibraltar were IRA terrorists on an active mission, and that they had a massive car bomb available. It was surely reasonable to assume that they intended to use it. We know also, from past history, that IRA members are frequently armed, are prepared to shoot to kill, and are able to detonate bombs by remote control.

From hindsight, of course, we know that when the IRA members were killed the bomb was not in the car they were using, and they were not armed. But unless that was known to the security forces when they opened fire, and there has been no suggestion that it was, can your correspondents (March 11) really argue that the security forces should have allowed even the risk that the IRA might detonate a bomb or shoot first? Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GREEN,  
Rhdyr y Harding,  
Castle Morris,  
Nr Haverfordwest, Dyfed,  
March 11.

From Mrs A. J. Allen  
Sir, Thank goodness somebody (Robert Kilroy-Silk, "Commentary", March 11) has raised a voice in protest at the killing of the IRA terrorists in Gibraltar.

I thought that we lived in a civilized country where capital punishment had been abolished. One wonders who ordered the shooting.  
Yours faithfully,  
ANN J. ALLEN,  
No.1 Providence,  
Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex,  
March 11.

## Crossed lines

From Mr and Mrs Vernon Gibberd  
Sir, In the early hours of one Sunday morning last autumn we were woken by the telephone, but at the other end there was only a click, followed by a rude ping-pong noise. We kept answering the calls, which continued for the next 48 hours, with the same result. Eventually an informed friend told us we had been connected by mistake to a computer.

We rang British Telecom who confirmed this. "We can intercept your calls for a fortnight," the man said, "or you can have a new number. That will cost you £21 plus VAT."

"But why should we pay?" we objected. "It's not our fault."

The man from BT seemed surprised. "But it's not ours either," he replied.

"But we are not supposed to be providing a service," we said. This was clearly a novel proposition which he considered in silence. We asked him to have the enemy computer traced but he said this was only allowed in criminal cases under police instructions.

"Then it can be traced?", we said.

"Yes, but we won't."

We accepted interception for a while, but to no effect, and since then the calls have continued on their erratic pattern. We now take the phone off the hook before going to bed. Shouting or whistling into the receiver relieves our feelings and the computer is momentarily shocked into dropping an octave. But it always rallies.

Can any reader advise us what to do?  
Yours faithfully,  
VERNON GIBBERD,  
DIANA GIBBERD,  
53 Camberwell Grove, SE5.

## Sticky problem

From Mrs Elizabeth Hingston  
Sir, I should like to add my plea to that of Mr Jonathan Sayeed (March 3). I imagine that a large proportion of church roofs, village halls and charitable causes are maintained by the sale of homemade jams. It takes quite a time to pick fruit and boil it up, but nothing to the time taken in removing sticky labels from manufacturers' glass jars.  
Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH HINGSTON,  
The Old Vicarage,  
Ramsbury,  
Marlborough, Wiltshire,  
March 5.

rest and even perhaps the finished paintings?

At present many of his works are exhibited crowded together in reserve galleries almost as if awaiting auction as surplus stock. Of course the present authorities may say that they do not intend to sell any. But these worthy people are only with us temporarily — increasingly so with shortening terms of office — and what is in question is not what they intend, but what the law will allow others perhaps differently disposed to do. It should be remembered that the abortive 1916 Bill similar to the one proposed now had as its main aim the sale of surplus Turners from the Turner Bequest to raise money for works by other artists.

Lady Birk and Lord St John of Fawley, according to your report of the House of Lords (March 4), have raised again the question of the "betrayal" of people who have left legacies. Turner's wishes are already betrayed. In 1907 the Law Officers said that part of the Turner Bequest could be lent to the Tate Gallery, when that was part of the National Gallery, though even that was disputed by the counsel of one of the National Gallery's trustees, Alfred de Rothschild.

That loan was converted by the 1954 National Gallery and Tate Gallery Act into a gift which cannot in any way be reconciled with Turner's will. Now it seems that the progressive departure from the stipulations he made is about to take another step, opening the way to the further dismemberment of the Turner Bequest, perhaps better named "Turner's Turners", though mostly now impudently called "the Tate's Turners".

Yours faithfully,  
SELBY WHITTINGHAM  
(Co-editor, *J. M. W. Turner, RA*),  
Turner House,  
153 Cromwell Road, SW5,  
March 12.

## ON THIS DAY

MARCH 15 1927

Rugby football reached France in the middle of the nineteenth century but it developed slowly, and it was not until 1890 that the first international between England and France was held.

## PAU BEATS TARDES.

"Barnais et Bigourdans vont s'affronter en quarts de finale du championnat de France." Thus in bold headlines our Sunday local paper announced the great Rugby match to be played that afternoon between Pau and Tarbes, the section Patoise and the Stadoceste Tarbais....

For once in a while the rain stopped, the sun shone, and the snowy Pyrenees unveiled themselves from their covering of cloud. All the morning Pau was seething with suppressed excitement; train loads of gentlemen in blue berets who came to about for Tarbes poured into the town; the traffic was diverted, and our taxi-driver — in a fur coat — explained that he would have to make a great detour.... More than half an hour before the game began the ground was packed with a black crowd, splashed here and there by the light blue uniforms of the 18th Regiment; the goal posts had been freshly painted with bands of green — the Pau colours — and crowned with little green spikes; everybody wore green and white button holes and the "sun blanc", a confetti resembling a sausage roll, in which ice cream is the sausage and chocolate the roll. An official with a megaphone came on to the ground and proclaimed the names of the two teams, those of Tarbes in a cold, businesslike manner, those of Pau with a patriotic fervour and a noble ringing of bells.... Pau had an incessant chorus of whistling and stamping until at length amid a wild burst of cheers the men of Tarbes raced on to the ground.... They ran once down the field, passing the ball from hand to hand, and then as one man threw off their blazers and appeared in white with red stockings. Pau followed, disdaining the empty show of blazers, and ready for the fray, in green jerseys and green and white stockings. The captain and clearly the great man of their side, Sarraute, the stand-off half, wore a yellow cloth cap. Wherever the fight was thickest there blazed the cloth cap, the banner and the beacon of Pau....

For the first ten minutes or so the referee in his scarlet jersey almost monopolized the applause, for he tended to give more "coups francs" to Pau than to Tarbes. Then the teams settled down, and there was much fine kicking by both sides, rather too much of it, as it appeared to an uninitiated spectator.... After about 20 minutes Pau scored twice in succession.... Ladies stood up and waved madly, berets were cast into the air, as one looked at the stand behind, one saw rank upon rank of manically contorted faces with mouths wide open. When at last the frantic shouts died down they were succeeded by a rhythmic stamping and clapping all round the ground, after the manner of "Kentish fire"....



## THE ARTS

## Life for the poor

In the current climate of strife and paranoia, the *Panorama* producer must exhibit a pronounced sense of political balance. Last night's programme, subtitled *The Underclass of 88* (BBC1), about the forthcoming social security reform, had an air of earnest even-handedness.

With the predictability of ducks in a shooting gallery, the Minister appeared on screen to herald the birth of a new enterprise culture, to be countered shortly afterwards by a professor of social policy, warning of the relegation of the poor to partial citizenship.

This was an extremely complicated topic, which required all the analytical rigour that John Birt could inspire in his crew. Poverty is a subject which commentators traditionally treat with sentimentality and the urge to put faces and feelings to the cold facts and figures was evidently irresistible. The programme contrasted Sheffield's bleak '60s housing estates with glittering new shopping malls.

A large number of the specimen poor were interviewed, and some appeared more sympathetic than others. The young labourer whose

## TELEVISION

long, hard week's work earned him only £75, and who will be even worse off under the new system, had the viewer on his side; the housewife who yearned to be able to afford Heinz tomato ketchup instead of the cheaper supermarket own-brand was less engaging.

There was a puzzling overall focus on shopping habits as a barometer of poverty, which allowed the idea of a hopelessly disadvantaged underclass to remain unexplored. Poverty is less about patterns of consumption than hopelessness, ill-health and crime.

It had plainly been a struggle to prove that the new system would benefit the deserving poor. No one appeared who would be better off and most looked forward with resignation to a new set of financial swings and roundabouts.

On balance this was a creditably clear presentation of a complicated subject. Perhaps the best evidence which emerged for the "benefit culture" was the impenetrable jungle of social security benefits so miserably familiar to claimants and so baffling to the more fortunate.

Celia Brayfield

## A multitude of masters

## GALLERY

John Russell Taylor takes a close look at Master Paintings from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection, an exhibition presented by *The Times* at the Royal Academy of Arts in London



Strangely compressed and intense: Cramach's "Hercules at the Court of Omphale" c. 1515, from the Thyssen-Bornemisza show at the Royal Academy

In this country the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection conjures up principally the sumptuous assemblage of 20th-century masters displayed at the Royal Academy in 1984. These are indeed the special interest and delight of the present Baron, who has vastly extended his collection in this direction since the death of his father in 1947.

But they are far from being the whole story. The present Baron has also amassed a spectacular collection of 19th-century American painting, and has continued with a will to add to the collection of Old Masters which was initiated by his father. At the last count the Old Master Collection alone amounted to some 570 paintings, and it is from these that the new show Master Paintings from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection has been selected for showing at the Royal Academy from Friday until June 12.

The riches of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection are legendary; indeed, the only comparable collection still in private hands is that of the Queen. It would obviously be possible to go on and on selecting shows like this, 50-odd pictures at a time, and still see no noticeable diminution of quality.

There was a showing of masterworks from the Old Master Collection at the National Gallery in 1961, but that was radically different in its emphasis. Even more striking is to compare the present show with one of roughly the same size (54 pictures in this, 59 in that) which toured extensively in America in 1979-81.

Only some 20 pictures were included in both shows, and despite the overlap, one could be forgiven for supposing that the two selections were drawn from very different collections and mirrored very different tastes.

No doubt the tone of the time has something to do with that. The American show was strong on High Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo painting, and on typical grotesqueries of 17th-century Dutch genre painting. This time round, there is no Titian, no Tintoretto (even though the Baron's examples of both are recognized masterpieces), and only one of the Baron's four great Rubenses, the quietest, "Portrait of a Lady with a Rosary".

That particular selection seems to be characteristic of the late-Eighties choice: again and again, checking what is here against what the collection could have sent, we seem to find the crisply severe and starkly elegant preferred over the expansive and extravagant.

This is a choice which can most intensely appeal to today's public, accustomed to photo-realism and (partly at least through the wonder-

ful examples included in the show of the Baron's modern pictures) the teasing "New Objectivity" of the German Neue Sachlichkeit painters.

This means that quite often the portrait or single-figure painting is chosen instead of the elaborately organized composition: Michael Sweets's mysterious "The Sense of Smell", for example, over the more obvious "Soldiers Playing Dice", Juan de Flandes's "Portrait of a Spanish Princess", a curiously inscrutable and indeed slightly oriental-looking image, over his "Pieta with St John and St Mary Magdalen" and Hans Baldung Grien's "Portrait of a Lady" over his "Adam and Eve".

There is also a strong emphasis on pictures to this taste by less familiar artists, like the Flemish Master's wonderfully direct yet ambiguous "Portrait of Robert de Massimines", a man of action one suspects it would not be good to meet on a dark night, or Jan Polack's rather sour-looking "Portrait of a Benedictine Abbot", or Pieter Jansz Saen-

redam's tantalizingly undatable "West Facade of the Church of Saint Mary in Utrecht", actually painted around 1636 but which could almost as readily be attributed to le Douanier Rousseau.

There remains, of course, an irreducible minimum of paintings in the collection which are so masterly and familiar, in reproduction at least, that their absence would be felt in any selection. The two great Watteaus, for instance, "Pierrot Content" and "La Haine (The Rest)", could hardly be left out, nor could "El Tio Paquete" and "Aseuso Julia in his Studio" from the Baron's holdings of Goya, or Altdorfer's "Portrait of a Young Woman".

Nor, one might have thought, the most famous of the Henry VIII portraits by Hans Holbein the Younger from the Spencer Collection — except that that, duly included in London, was left out of the American show. In London, on the other hand, we do not get

other years later and one of the most dazzling examples of the painter's mature style, make a wonderful, eye-opening contrast and tell us a lot about the painter in a very small compass.

Any visitor, too, is likely to find at least one or two particular personal favourites, which in my case would include Cramach's strangely compressed and intense "Hercules at the Court of Omphale", Petrus Christus's highly formalized small panel "Madonna of the Dry Tree", a curious subject made no less curious by an historical explanation about Christus's own adherence to a special religious community venerating the Immaculate Conception, and Hendrik Terbrugghen's "Eau Sellaing His Birthright", with its virtuoso handling of the candlelight, an unexpectedly Caravaggesque image from early 17th-century Holland.

But, among such amazing riches, such extraordinary variety, it must be for every individual to find his or her own. And none is likely to come disappointed away.

And there are enough wonders for any taste. The two El Greco versions of "The Annunciation", one early and very Titianesque, the

## Clearly shrewd

LSO/Hickox  
Barbican Hall

Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* is a work which has always needed saving from itself.

The question at its core — in time of war, just whose hands are clean? — is one which cannot be posed too often. But the question tends to be compromised by passages of neat verbal moralizing which are only emphasized and underlined by their sometimes long-winded musical realisation; and it takes shrewd direction to sustain the work's credibility.

Richard Hickox, conducting the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus on Sunday evening, steered it towards salvation. His ideas were clear, and he carried them through decisively.

Within a weighty, broad pacing of the work's three parts, concise, the spiritual chorales brisk, robust, the solo singing heightened to the point of rhetoric. It worked.

Willard White comes into his own as orator: his bass narrations had a bulky, statu-

## CONCERTS

esque presence, properly contrasting with the flesh-and-blood vulnerability of Philip Langridge's tenor protagonist. This, too, was a most carefully considered performance, sharpened by details like his long, slow crescendo into "I have no money for my bread" and his half-spoken cry of "Mother Mother".

The artistry of Alfreda Hodgson and Heather Harper was particularly impressive in their contributions to the spirituals, where skillful phrasing worked as powerfully in its own right as the ease of a younger voice.

Whether it was wise to preface this substantial work with an equally substantial symphony is another matter. But the law of the theatre must be obeyed, and this concert was part of the "Theme with Variations" which forms the Barbican's extensive celebration of British music.

Vaughan Williams's *London Symphony*, written just before an earlier war, was in the hands of Hickox, not without its own vein of disquiet, as powerfully controlled waves of structural tension rolled under the mists, the hurly-burlys and the unfashioned chimes of Big Ben.

Hilary Finch

New London  
Chamber Choir  
St John's

Mauricio Kagel, whose God is Bach, met his musical creator face to face on Friday night in a programme devised with energetic imagination by the New London Chamber Choir, conducted by James Wood.

Its raison d'être was to give a platform to Kagel's *Programme* or, at least, four of its 11 short, self-contained compositions, which he wrote in 1971 to be performed with "intermezzi" of audience discussion, omitted on this occasion.

The Bach connection, which the NLCC exploited richly, lies in the fact that two of the pieces relate, by evocation, association, and specific cross-reference to the work of Johann Sebastian himself. *Die Mutation*, an ironic patchwork of verbal fragments from titles of Bach's cantatas, sung, spoken and declaimed by men's voices, chatters its surreal way over a harpsichord performance of the Prelude No 44.

Its deliberately uncertain ground had been prepared by a smilingly robust performance of Bach's Cantata "Fürchte dich nicht" ("Fear thou not... I am thy God") and a sprightly confident rendering of the Prelude itself. Its last line, "Hop, hop! The new born child is dead" made its exit to the echo of a chilling invisible cry, soon incarnated in the figure of a strutting singing nun.

Sara Stowe, dressed for the part, suddenly turned the evening round into a real Kagel "happening"; her doll-like "Recitativo", accompanying herself at the harpsichord, projected to a nicely its numb, stammered litany of dried out religious invocation.

We were left with *Vom Horensagen* for three groups of "flowermaidens," singing fragments from von Eschenbach's *Parzifal*, and *Gegenstrimmen*, whose "separate parts" shouted, buzzed and chattered their way through the amplified commands and entreaties of their conductor with enthusiastic control.

In the first half of the evening, Schütz's *Musical Exequies* was given a finely discriminating performance by the choir, six sweet-voiced soloists, and a stalwart quartet of organ, theorbo, cello and violone continuo players.

H. F.

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## RECITAL

Jorge Bolet  
Festival Hall

While Jorge Bolet's concerto outings have been increasingly problematical occasions in recent seasons, the big Cuban remains a powerful and convincing interpreter of the solo piano repertoire.

Few Bolet recitals lack a passing hiatus or three on the technical side; on the other hand, few fail to reveal a strikingly individual view of the great Romantic warhorses.

Yesterday afternoon, Bolet ended with a heroic performance of Liszt's *Concerto in E-flat major*, a trading which was as persuasive in the epic style of "General Guerra" as when Bolet was shaping the quieter lyricism against a beautifully restrained accompaniment.

He has always had a rare ability to spotlight inner melodies without making them sound strident or obvious; that was put to excellent use as César Franck's *Prelude, Choral et fugue* reached its fearfully polyphonic apotheosis. Indeed, as the fugue entries piled up, Bolet's relish for his task seemed perceptibly to grow.

Fugues permeated this programme, for earlier we heard some contrapuntal Mendelssohn and Beethoven's Sonata in A flat Op 110, whose *Fuga* finale was given an admirably unfussy exposition.

The preceding movements, however, had been less satisfactory. Bolet's attempt to play the opening Moderato Cantabile in a highly distilled, tranquil way merely sounded intellectually docile, and he came unstuck in the scherzo's tricky crossed-hands section.

But his choice of Mendelssohn's pieces caught effectively that composer's enigmatic duality. The *Andante* and *Rondo Capriccioso* is in the same skittish vein as the octet and *Midsummer Night's Dream* music, while the E minor Prelude and Fugue, with its *Ein feste Burg* climax, is more obviously the work of the stout Victorian hand that wrote *Elijah*.

Bolet exploited this contrast intelligently, though his big-boned style seemed more naturally suited to chorale than to caprice.

Richard Morrison



Duet from *Adventures in Motion Pictures' Overlap Lovers*

## Amateur nights

## DANCE

Spring-Loaded  
The Place

If we judge John Ashford's second Spring-Loaded dance season at The Place by his own criterion of showing the diversity of work being done throughout Britain, it is quite impressive. What worries me is that if one tries to apply value judgements (a retrograde idea in some quarters), the results offer less cause for congratulation.

On stage this past weekend I watched two companies who have good qualities but are not making the most of them. Phoenix are an all-male group, most of whom started dancing in the admirable Harehills School at Leeds. As performers they are lively and energetic, but energy is no substitute for choreography, and the home-made dances showed more earnestness than invention.

They got their biggest response (and I must record that they attracted a full and

enthusiastic house) for some uninhibited miming to James Brown's recording of "Sex Machine".

A fairly new group, *Adventures in Motion Pictures*, offered more variety, but pieces by Julia Clarke and Matthew Bourne relied more on ideas than movement. Ben Craft, brought in as guest choreographer and dancer, offered a vaguely Persian number that began slowly, turned to quick interweaving, but ended abruptly, without making its purpose clear.

Their best piece is a cruel joke called *Does Your Crimping Go All Crusty When You Rub?* Jacob Marley's choreography invites us to laugh at his characters' pitiful inadequacies, but his observation is sharp and the movement often genuinely funny.

What both companies expended was a good-natured English amateurishness, in sad contrast to the rigorous professionalism of the couple from Tel Aviv. Nir Ben Gal and Liat Dror, whose duet earlier in the week conveyed twice as much interest and meaning in half the time.

John Percival



## Local ombudsman can be reviewed by the courts

**Regina v Local Commissioner for Administration for the South, West, Midlands, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, Ex parte Eastleigh Borough Council**  
Before Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Taylor  
[Judgment March 11]

The fact that Parliament had not created a right of appeal against the findings of a local ombudsman was sufficient to establish the right of relief by way of judicial review.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by Eastleigh Borough Council against the refusal of Mr Justice Nolan (The Times July 14, 1987) to grant a declaration that a Local Commissioner, Mr F. C. Laws, had acted contrary to section 34(3) of the Local Government Act 1974. The court also dismissed by a majority (the Master of the Rolls dissenting) a cross-appeal by the ombudsman against the decision that he had so acted.

Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC and Mr Peter Towler for the council; Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Mr David Mole for the Local Commissioner.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Justice Nolan had held that the council had had cause for complaint on

two grounds. First, the ombudsman had acted contrary to section 34(3) of the 1974 Act. Second, he had acted contrary to section 26(1) in that he had made a report on a complaint when it had not been established that the complainant had suffered injustice in consequence of the maladministration which was the subject of the complaint.

However, the judge had refused to quash the report or to grant the council a declaration that the ombudsman had exceeded his jurisdiction. The council appealed against that refusal.

Mr Justice Nolan said that there was nothing to prevent the council responding to the report with equal publicity, and since Parliament had not thought it necessary to create a right of appeal against the findings in the Local Commissioner's report, and in the absence of impropriety, the courts ought not to provide the equivalent of such a right by judicial review.

His Lordship profoundly disagreed with that approach. Parliament had not created a right of appeal against the findings in a Local Commissioner's report. That very fact, coupled with the character of the ombudsman's office and powers, was the foundation of the right to relief by way of judicial review.

There had been the suggestion

that the council should issue a statement disputing the right of the ombudsman to make his findings, and that that would provide the council with an adequate remedy. Such an action would wholly undermine the system of ombudsmen's reports and would, in effect, provide for an appeal to the media against his findings.

The parliamentary intention had been that reports by ombudsmen should be accepted by the local authorities concerned. That was clear from sections 30(4) and (5) and 31(1) and (2).

While his Lordship was very far from encouraging local authorities to seek judicial review of an ombudsman's report, which, bearing in mind the nature of his office and duties and the qualifications of those who held that office, was inherently unlikely to succeed, in the absence of a successful application for judicial review and the giving of relief, local authorities should not dispute an ombudsman's report and should carry out their duties in relation to it.

Publication of Mr Justice Nolan's judgment in favour of the council was not an adequate remedy because it did not relieve the council of its obligations to respond to the report in accordance with section 31(1).

Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Taylor agreed that the council's appeal should be allowed for the reasons given by the Master of the Rolls.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Mr F. C. Laws, Eastleigh; Thornton Lyne & Lawson for Mr J. J. Bash.

## Breach of Convention no ground for damages

**Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Office, Ex parte Weeks**  
Before Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice French  
[Judgment February 17]

A prisoner whose treatment after his release on licence while serving a life sentence had been in breach of article 5(4) of the European Convention on Human Rights (see *Weeks v United Kingdom* (The Times March 5, 1987)) was not entitled to compensation.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an application by Robert Weeks for an order of certiorari to quash a refusal of the Secretary of State for the Home Department to authorise the payment of compensation from public funds to the applicant.

Mr Allan Levy for the applicant; Mr John Laws for the Secretary of State.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that the applicant had been convicted of armed robbery in December 1966 when he was 17. He had entered a shop with a starting pistol and robbed the owner of 35p.

After considering probation reports Mr Justice Thesiger sentenced him to life imprisonment so that the Home Secretary could release him when, with the passage of years, he was believed to be responsible. The sentence was upheld on appeal as being more merciful than a long term of imprisonment.

The applicant was released on licence in March 1976 but that was revoked in June 1977. He was released again in October 1982 but was detained again for

five months in 1985 after going abroad without permission. He was released in September 1985 and had not been in custody since.

The applicant applied to the European Commission of Human Rights alleging violations of article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The Convention was ratified by the UK Government but was not enacted in statute law.

The European Court found that there had been no violation of article 5(1)(a) of the Convention but that there had been a violation of article 5(4) which provided that everyone who was deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention should be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention should be decided speedily by a court.

On April 29, 1987 the Home Secretary recommended that the Royal Prerogative be exercised to remit the remainder of the applicant's life sentence.

In a written reply, No 173 of November 29, 1985, the Home Secretary made a statement in Parliament regarding the payment of compensation to persons who had been wrongfully convicted of criminal offences.

The applicant applied to the Home Secretary for compensation but the application was refused. It was that decision which was now challenged.

It was accepted on behalf of the applicant that he could not claim compensation under article 5(3) of the Convention directly because it was not part of UK legislation. That paragraph provided that everyone who was a victim of a breach of the article should have an

enforceable right to compensation.

However, it was submitted that the Home Secretary's statement in Parliament provided an way of claiming compensation because it covered situations like the applicant's.

If the Home Secretary announced a policy there was a legitimate expectation that he would comply with it. If he did not comply the failure would fall to be quashed.

The passage relied on was: "I have normally paid compensation on application to persons who have spent a period in custody and who receive a free pardon, or whose conviction is quashed by the Court of Appeal or the House of Lords... In future I shall be prepared to pay compensation to all such persons where this is required by our international obligations."

The question therefore, was whether the facts of the ap-

plicant's case fell within the Home Secretary's statement.

Mr Laws accepted that if the facts of the case clearly came within the statement, and others in similar circumstances had received compensation, then a legitimate expectation might arise.

The award of compensation in cases such as this was under the direct exercise of a power of the Royal Prerogative.

Mr Laws was prepared for the court to accept, for this hearing, that such a matter was properly justiciable before the court. The court adopted that without deciding the point.

In interpreting the Home Secretary's statement his Lordship said that it was apparent that the whole paragraph was dealing with cases involving wrongful convictions and free pardons. For that reason he agreed with the submission of Mr Laws that the word "such"

in the sentence regarding future policy was extremely important, and restricted the categories to which the statement applied.

In this case there was no suggestion of a wrongful conviction. The complaint that the applicant's detention and recall should have been subject to periodic review did not fall within the statement.

If the result was that, in a case such as the applicant's, the UK was in breach of her obligations under article 5(4) that was not a matter the court could rely on or decide. The matter might fall for consideration in Strasbourg.

Having reached that conclusion it was unnecessary for the court to rule on the legitimate expectation argument.

Mr Justice French delivered a concurring judgment.  
Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co, Southwark; Treasury Solicitor.

## Desultory steps are relevant when considering inexcusable delay

**Lev (t/a Michael Lev & Co) v Fagan**

On an application to strike out an action for want of prosecution the court, when considering whether there had been inordinate and inexcusable delay, could take into account not only those periods when nothing had been done by either side, but also periods when steps were being taken in a desultory fashion.

The fact that an action had taken nine years to come to trial was not capable of rendering inexcusable an inordinate delay of one year which was otherwise inexcusable.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said

that strictly a judge's decision as to whether there had been inordinate or inexcusable delay, or whether it had caused prejudice to the defendant, was not an exercise of his discretion in the sense in which that word was used in *Hadmor Productions Ltd v Hamilton* ([1983] 1 AC 191) and *G v G (Minors: Custody Appeal)* ([1985] 1 WLR 647).

Prejudice could be caused to a defendant simply by having an untried allegation of dishonesty hanging over him for a long period.

## Disposal of house by consent not exempt

**Regina v Rushmoor Borough Council, Ex parte Barrett**  
Before Lord Justice Russell, Lord Justice Mann and Sir Frederick Lawton  
[Judgment February 18]

A consent order made in ancillary matrimonial proceedings for the sale of the former matrimonial home, a council house jointly purchased by the parties, was not an order made under section 24 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

Accordingly the sale following such order was not an "exempt disposal" for the purposes of section 160(1) of the Housing Act 1985, and the parties were therefore required to account to the local authority in respect of the discount they had received on acquiring the property.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Carol Ruth Barrett from Mr Justice Reeve ([1987] QB 275) who had refused an application made by her and her former spouse, Thomas Herbert John Barrett, for judicial review of the decision of Rushmoor Borough Council that the sale of their former matrimonial home at 2 Bleach Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, pursuant to the order of Mr Registrar Fuller was not an exempt disposal within section 160(1)(c) of the 1985 Act.

Mr Alexander Cartile, QC and Mr Nicholas Paul for Mrs Barrett; Mr Timothy Straker for the council.

SIR FREDERICK LAWTON said that the issue in plain terms was where a husband and wife purchased a council house under the Housing Act 1985 and its predecessor Acts and were divorced within five years, now reduced to three years, of the purchase, whether they could share the proceeds of sale between themselves without accounting to the local authority as required by the statutory covenant contained in the conveyance of every sale of that kind.

In the present case the parties who had married in March 1984 purchased the property in October 1984 paying a price reduced by a discount of 44 per cent. The marriage had not lasted and in December 1985 the decree absolute was pronounced. In an ancillary financial proceedings a consent order was made by the registrar that the property should be sold and the proceeds divided equally between the parties.

Following a sale pursuant to that order the local authority claimed 80 per cent of the

discount, namely £10,120 under the provisions of the 1985 Act. The parties contended that the discount was not payable by virtue of section 160(1)(c) which provided that a disposal was exempt if it was a disposal of the whole of the dwelling house in pursuance of an order made under section 24 of the 1973 Act.

The 1973 Act had given the court wide powers to make such orders as it thought fit for the benefit of the parties to a marriage under dissolution. Section 24 related to property adjustment orders.

While it was obvious that the section empowered the court to make a number of wide adjustment orders, its object, taking the section as a whole was to ensure adjustments within the family on divorce. Adjustment was the essential feature of the section, not disposition.

His Lordship referred to the doubts concerning the consequences of section 24 after it came into operation and of the insertion of section 24A into the 1973 Act by section 7 of the Matrimonial Homes and Property Act 1981 which gave the court power to order a sale of property on the dissolution of the marriage.

The Housing Act 1980 which introduced the tenant's right to purchase council property at a discount laid down the circumstances in which property might be disposed of without the discount being repayable.

The 1985 Act which was a consolidating Act exempted certain disposals from repayment but section 160(1)(c) had restricted such exemption to very special circumstances. More-over the 1985 Act was passed after the inclusion of section 24A in the 1973 Act and yet contained no reference to that section.

The order in the present case was clearly made under section 24A and was not a property adjustment order under section 24. It was not therefore a disposal to which the exemption under section 160(1) applied.

In his Lordship's judgment Parliament had confined the exemption in section 160(1) to where there had been adjustments of the relevant property not where there had been an out-and-out sale under section 24A. He would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: Tanner & Taylor, Aldershot; Sharpe Pritchard & Co, for Mr R. G. S. Foster, Farnborough.

## Solicitors prejudicing their own clients

Practice Note  
Some solicitors seemed impervious to practice directions and delayed the course of proceedings thereby prejudicing their own clients, the Lord Chief Justice stated, when, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Mr Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Roch on March 14, he delivered a Practice Note concerning notices of appeal and applications for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that as from January 1 this year, notices of appeal and of applications for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal Criminal Division were served on the crown court at which the proceedings took place.

His Lordship said that this attention to that in *Practice Direction: Notices of Appeal* (The Times December 19, 1987; [1988] 1 WLR 34). As his

Lordship had stated then, the purpose of the change was to get the necessary documents to the Criminal Appeal Office with the minimum of delay.

To date, the results had been very encouraging: 85 per cent of the applications received in the Criminal Appeal Office had been delivered within four days of the date of original receipt in the crown court and that had provided a substantial saving of time.

However, some solicitors seemed impervious to practice directions and continued to serve notice and application directly upon the Criminal Appeal Office. In that way they delayed the course of proceedings and prejudiced their own clients.

His Lordship said that this note was to remind such solicitors that the direction was there to be followed - not ignored.

## Winding up company

In re Instrumentation Electrical Services Ltd

On its true construction, section 124(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 required all a company's directors to present a winding-up petition, not just some of them, and it followed therefore that two out of the company's three directors had no standing to petition under the section; furthermore there was no board minute of the directors resolving to seek a winding-up. In addition, since the contributors could not allege either an advantage or a disadvantage to themselves arising from the winding-up, they too had no

standing to present a petition. Section 124(1) of the 1986 Act provides: "... an application for the winding up of a company shall be by petition presented either by the company, or the directors, or by any creditor or creditors, contributory or contributories, or by all or any of those parties, together or separately."

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, in the Chancery Division on February 18, struck out, on the motion of the third director and the company, a winding-up petition presented by two director petitioners and two contributory petitioners.



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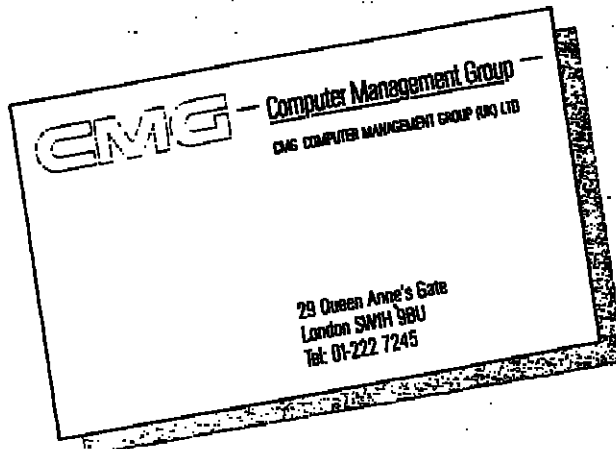
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## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

**BOOKING KEY**  
★ Seats available  
★ Returns only  
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE  
LONDON

★ **BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:** Dame Edna Everage back again joshing the postmen. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.30pm, £5.50-£17.50, (D)

★ **THE BRIGADIER/UNCLE MORT:** Peter Tinniswood's parodied and splendid pasteurised farce and flesh by William Ruckstein, with Sam Kelly and David Adams in attendance. Until April 9. Lyric Studio Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 8-10.15pm, mat Sat 4-6.15pm. Extended until April 9, £5

★ **THE BROWNING VESPER/HARLEQUINADE:** Rattigan double bill: starchy cast led by Dorothy Tutin and Paul Hoggan. Lyric Studio Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 8-10.15pm, mat Sat 4-6.15pm. Extended until April 9, £5

★ **COUNT RAKOWSKY AND THE ZAGROSKY MIKE TROUPE:** Sat on recent 88 history performed by the English-based TOP (Theatre of Poland). Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Pl, 11 Pembroke Road W1 (01-229 0705). Tube: Notting Hill Gate. Mon-Sat 8pm, £4

★ **THE FOREIGNER:** Patchy comedy. Nicholas Lynskey as a timid tourist in the US struck dumb with no one. Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Thurs and Sat 3-5.30pm, £5-£13.50

★ **THE POSSIBILITIES:** Ten short plays by Howard Barker, ranging in setting from biblical times to now. Until March 19. Aldegar Theatre, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Daily 6pm, £4.50-£7.50

★ **SHIRLEY VALENTINE:** New Willy Russell play: outstanding performance by Pauline Collins as the down-trodden housewife tempted by a Greek island. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 5987). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, mat Wed 2.30-4.45pm, £5-£13.50

★ **SOUTH PACIFIC:** Gemma Craven and Emily Berridge in magnificent staged revival. Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street, W1 (01-838 5888). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Wed and Sat 2.30pm, £5-£20

★ **THE TUTOR:** Drama by 18th century playwright Richard Lenz, adapted by Brecht; set in Prussia after the Seven Years War and directed by renowned Brechtian actress, Angelica Hurwitz. Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road SE1 (01-828 7618). Tube: Waterloo. Operas tonight 7-10pm. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 2-5.30pm, mat 10.45pm. Mat Wed 2.30-5.30pm and Sat 4-7pm, £4-£14

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## Fewer fakes at Chelsea's friendly fair

The price of £14,000 for two German Doppelmeier eight-inch globes from the mid-18th century, for sale at the Chelsea Antiques Fair, which opens today, illustrates the level of interest in scientific, marine and navigational instruments among modern collectors. David Weston (above), one of the world's leading specialists, is also offering a rare astronomical clock, English but from the same period, which shows the phases of the moon (£18,000). One reason that

scientific instruments are becoming increasingly popular, according to David Weston, is "that you can't easily fake them; it would cost as much or more than you would pay for the original instrument even to try". The Chelsea fair, established in 1951, has a reputation as a quality but friendly event. Though it may not have the prestige of the Burlington or Grosvenor House fairs, it offers "things for the relatively inexpensively as well as important pieces costing thousands of

pounds", according to Caroline Penman, the organizer. Furniture (always pre-1830) is the backbone of the fair, though porcelain, paintings, silver and other antiques are well represented. The fair will be opened today at 2pm by the singer, Elaine Paige, and runs until March 26. Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, SW3 (01-351 6884). Weekdays, 11am-6pm, Saturday 11am-6pm, closed Sundays, £3.50 including catalogue. Judy Froshag

assigned to protect a well-heeled witness to a brutal murder (198 min). Leicester Square Theatre (01-830 5252). Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.45.

★ **UN BALLO IN MASCHERA:** Less-than-happy revival, but some lively conducting from Richard Armstrong and a distinguished American in Alexander Gogachev. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1006). 7.30-10.45pm, £2-25.

★ **CAV AND PAGE:** Revival of Ian Judge's 1986 production for ENO with lively casts, including Arthur Coad, Angela Fenney, Malcolm Donnelly, and Alan Cline. Cannon Follies, London WC2 (01-370 2556). Progs 2.00, 4.40, 7.30, 9.25.

★ **WE HEARD THE MERMAIDS SINGING:** 19th-century musical from Canada about a scatterbrained secretary (Sheila McCarthy) bemused by her new job in an art gallery. Written and directed by Patricia Rozema (87 min). Cannon Follies, London WC2 (01-370 2556). Progs 2.00, 4.40, 7.30, 9.25.

★ **EUGENE ONIGNE:** Scottish Gothic production with Sergio Lazzarini in the title role and Polish soprano Joanna Kozłowska as Tatiana. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1006). 7.30-10.45pm, £2-25.

★ **THE MISSION:** Gothic rockers promoting a resoundingly impressive and successful second album, *Children*. Alexandra House, Museum Road, London W1 (01-838 3161). 7.30-10.45pm, £2-25.

★ **RIQUETTO:** The Royal Northern College of Music present what promises to be a stimulating production, with Noel Davies conducting a student cast. Royal Northern College of Music, Oxford Road, Manchester (01-273 4504). 7.15-10.30pm, £2-15.50.

★ **THE LAST EMPEROR:** 1919: Bertolucci's epic tells the extraordinary story of P'u Yi, China's last imperial ruler, who became a communist leader. With John Lone, Peter O'Toole (182 min). Old Leicester Square (01-830 6111). Progs 12.15, 4.00, 7.45.

★ **ORPHANS:** 1915: Strongly adapted version of Lyle Kessler's play about two bizzare brothers whose lives are turned upside down by a drunken but benign genius. Alan J. Pakula directs Albert Finney, Kevin Anderson and Matthew Modine (115 min). Cannon Follies, London WC2 (01-370 2556). Progs 2.25, 5.30, 8.15.

★ **SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME:** 1915: Ridley Scott's showy visual style dominates this portrait of a man in which routine Tom Bergeron is

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★ **SWISS SERIES:** In the first of a series of concerts by Swiss artists Jean-François Armand plays Mozart's Fantasia K 475, Schumann's Carnival and something of a rarity, Chopin's Piano Sonata Op 24. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1051). 7.30pm, £3.50, £4.50.

★ **WORLD OF ZAVATY:** The Schubert Ensemble of London offers a rather mixed programme with Mozart's The World of Jan Zavy, Novak's Garden of Delights, Graham's Dunky, Dvorak's Dumky Trio Op 90, Martin's Oboe Quartet. Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-222 3191, or 01-222 8800). 8pm, £2-25.

★ **DANCE**  
★ **NOW AND THEN:** Janet Smith's new work based on children's games is one of the first premieres in her company's programme, which also includes Robert North's *Whip It to a Jelly evoking 1930s urban America*. Shew Theatre, Euston Road, London NW1 (01-388 1394). 7.30-9.30pm.

★ **CINDERELLA:** Frederick Ashton's production of the Prokofiev score for the Royal Ballet. Hippodrome, Hurst Street, Birmingham (021-622 7486). 7.30-9.45pm, mat 2-4pm, £5-21.

★ **COPELLO:** Northern Ballet Theatre's production of the Dances classic sees the action in Lancashire but otherwise follows tradition. Grand Theatre, Church Street, Blackpool (0253 28372). 7.30-9.30pm.

★ **ELLEN CORNFIELD:** A dancer formerly with Merce Cunningham presents her own duet and solo. Theatre 99, Rye House, London WC1 (01-387 0031). 8-9.30pm, £5.

★ **GALLERIES**  
★ **DAVID BOMBERG (1880-1957):** Another small-scale exhibition of drawings and paintings, complementing the Tate Gallery's retrospective. Boundary Road, London NW8 (01-624 1126). Tues-Sat 11-6pm, free, until April 8.

★ **INK PAINTINGS:** Traditional and modern works from Hong Kong illustrating this ancient art form. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-438 4141). Mon-Sat 7-9.45pm, Sun 12-3pm, free, until April 8.

★ **DUTCH AND BELGIAN PAINTINGS:** 40 works, including pictures by Meiss and Steen, collected last century by Baron de Férrière, on loan from Cheltenham Art Gallery. The Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester LE1 7RH. Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2-5.30pm, free, until April 6.

★ **JOAN EARDLEY:** Paintings and related drawings commemorating the 25th anniversary of the artist's death. Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow G1 3EY. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-5pm, free, until April 6.

★ **THE AGE OF INNOCENCE:** A collection of portraits of children from Stowe and Reynolds to Augustus John. Anthony Wood, 175 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-481 4627). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, free, until April 7.

★ **ANTONIO GUARDI (1859-1930):** A rare opportunity to see four paintings, depicting the reception of an ambassador by the Sultan, before their return to the British Embassy in Ankara. The Fine Art Society, 148 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-481 4627). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, free, until March 25.

★ **FOUR GUITARS:** The London Guitar Quartet plays the Arrival of the Queen of Sheba by Handel, Paganini's Paganini, and the Queen of Sheba by Paganini. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-222 3191). 8.30pm, £2-25.

★ **GEORGIA GUILDHALL:** John Goulding conducts the Guildhall Chamber Orchestra. Rosini's Transcendental, Rossini's Transcendental Overture, and the Queen of Sheba by Paganini. Guildhall, London EC4A 3DF. Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, free, until April 6.

★ **THE COMMON PURSUIT:** Written and directed by John Goulding. Guildhall, London EC4A 3DF. Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, free, until April 6.

★ **BLUE IN THE NIGHT:** Low Price! 8.30pm, £2-25.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Norfolk pays £18.6m for St James's in US

Norfolk Capital, the hotel chain, is paying £18.6 million for the St James's Club on Sunset Boulevard, near Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, to add to the St James's clubs in London and Paris it bought from Mr Peter de Savary last year for a total of £22 million. The company also reported record pretax profits for 1987 of £5.2 million - up 270 per cent on 1986.

Last year Norfolk increased its hotel chain from 10 to 14 and spent £4.6 million on improving facilities. Mr Anthony Richmond-Watson, the chairman, said: "The year was one in which the UK hotel industry recovered stability and indeed growth after an unsettled period." The shares were 28p, down 1p.

## Appleyard up to £5.3m

Appleyard Group, the Yorkshire motor distributor, pushed up pretax profits from £2.6 million to £5.3 million last year. Turnover rose from £176.3 million to £217.1 million. Shareholders collect a total dividend payment of 12p a share, up from 7p. On the stock market the shares rose 14p to 405p.

## Alida ahead by 16%

Alida Holdings, the polythene film products manufacturer and packaging distributor, made pretax profits of £4.4 million in the year to the end of December, a rise of 16 per cent. Turnover rose 35 per cent to £51.9 million. Pretax margins eased from 9.9 per cent in 1986 to 8.5 per cent, mainly because of a delay in recovering raw material cost increases. Raw material prices for the manufacturing companies rose by 50 per cent and supplies ran short towards the end of the year.

The company said although raw material prices might rise this year, they should be more stable and at a level where both producer and converter make adequate profits. The dividend was raised by 16 per cent to 9.25p and earnings per share rose 14 per cent to 25.2p.

## French site for Beecham

Beecham, the health and household products company, is building a pharmaceuticals production plant in France to meet the increasing need for its amoxicillin-based prescription medicines Augmentin and Clamoxyl. The factory is to be sited in Plélan, Brittany.

## £2.2m profit at Citygrove

Citygrove, the property company specializing in edge-of-town retail and leisure parks, made pretax profits of £2.2 million in the year to end November, against £715,000 last time, on turnover up from £12.9 million to £34.3 million. A total dividend of 4p was recommended.

## ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 358	Costa 1,298	Laporte 198	Royal Ind 584
Abbey 340	CU 698	LAG 693	Sasol 172
Ad-Lyons 65	Core Gold 268	Lloyds 1,248	Sainsbury 373
Ames 97	Cookson 546	Lovell 300	Seal & N 1,418
ASDA 795	Countdown 1,287	Lucas 634	Seas 1,446
AB Foods 49	Dalrymple 432	Magnet 228	Sedgwick 274
Argyll 1,234	Dea 775	M&S 4,118	Shaw 623
BA 798	Dunelm 1,792	Macmillan 1,236	Smith & N 688
BET 482	EEC 348	MEPC 317	Smith WH 140
BTR 4,195	Enterprise 463	Metals Box 808	STC 748
BAT 1,556	Ferranti 8,052	Midland 337	Stan Chart 288
Barclays 796	Fisons 1,404	Midwest 1,636	Starline 549
Beecham 218	Gen Acc 343	Nest 684	Sun Alliance 159
Beecham 1,022	GE 1,335	NIP Food 183	T & N 1,094
Becor 1,084	Glo 1,909	PSO 154	Tarmac 1,542
BICC 833	Globe 143	Pearl 512	Tate & Lyle 628
Blue Arm 11,515	Granada 255	Persson 148	TBS 2,414
Blue Circle 540	Grand Nat 302	Pickering 1,035	Tesco 1,648
BOC 481	GUS A 220	Plessey 2,419	Thorn EMI 170
Boots 1,054	GUS B 325	Prudential 948	Triglav 948
BPS 115	GWN 770	RAC 1,113	TSE 1,095
Br Aero 727	Guinness 1,216	Rk Hovis 588	Ultramar 770
Br Airways 542	Hamm A 85	Rank 558	Unigate 358
Br Comm 463	Hanson 6,485	RBC 113	Unilever 894
Br Gas 2,982	Hawker 274	Reed 757	United Els 2,587
Br Petrol 5,181	Hilldown 823	Reed 757	Unilever 894
Br Telecom 5,387	IMI 337	Reid 757	Unilever 894
Bristol 33	KI 1,035	RHC Sp 77	Unilever 894
Bund 603	Inchcape 285	RITZ 102	Unilever 894
Burnath 370	Jaguar 420	R-Royce 3,581	Unilever 894
Barton 429	Ladbro 1,520	Robinson B 682	Unilever 894
CAW 278	Ladbro 1,520	Robinson B 682	Unilever 894
Cadbury 781	Land Sec 95	Royal Bank 187	Unilever 894

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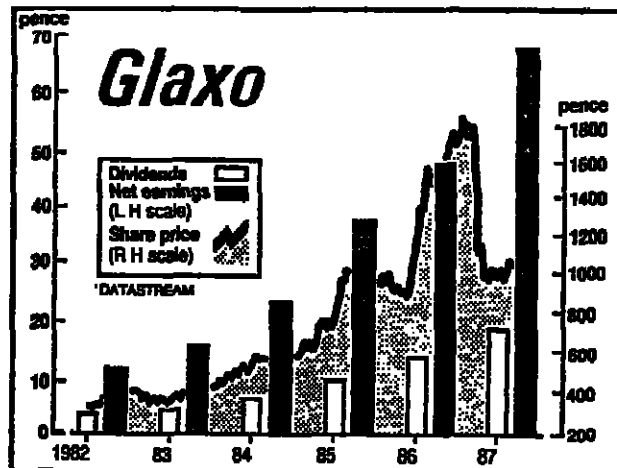
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**THE TIMES**  
GENERAL APPOINTMENTS EVERY THURSDAY

## TEMPUS

## Glaxo results give market a tonic



A slowing of Glaxo Holdings' spectacular growth rates had been well flagged by its chairman, Sir Paul Girolami, for the last six months. So much so that the market was pleasantly surprised by the 6 per cent increase in turnover and 4 per cent rise in pretax profits at the interim stage.

Growth in sales of the anti-ulcer drug Zantac may have slowed, but at 25 per cent a year, it is still grabbing an increasing share of a market which is reckoned to be growing at about 20 per cent.

Indeed, had it not been for the strong pound, turnover would have been up by a much more respectable 20 per cent, of which 17 per cent was volume and 3 per cent due to price increases. Trading profits, on the other hand, would have risen by the lower rate of 16 per cent, a reflection of the significantly higher expenditure on research and development.

The greatly increased level of R&D spending will continue for the next three years, Glaxo has as many as seven new compounds which are undergoing clinical trials.

Compound GR43175, a treatment for migraine destined for the market in 1990 or 1991 is one of the most promising. The size of this market is hard to establish,

but Glaxo has estimated that up to 30 per cent of the US population suffers from migraine headaches at some stage, with women being three times as susceptible as men. The potential could be huge if these estimates are anywhere near correct.

Other compounds undergoing clinical trials include GR38032 which prevents nausea and vomiting associated with cancer treatment, fluticasone propionate, a steroid for a range of inflammatory conditions and salmeterol for the treatment of asthma.

Predicting full-year earnings for a company which has 86 per cent of its sales outside the United Kingdom is especially hazardous. Analysts are looking for pretax profits of about £345 million, implying a prospective multiple of 14.

## Glynwed

## International

Glynwed International is the type of investment most fund managers dream about. Not

only does it set itself tough targets, but it goes out and beats them. And having done that, it then moves forward for a fresh challenge.

So, having set itself targets of a 20 per cent annual growth for earnings a share, of 25 per cent for return on capital, and to keep debt/equity ratio under control, it passes the 1987 finishing post with flying colours.

EPS growth in the year ended December was 27 per cent, the debt-equity ratio down to 3.5 per cent, and the return on capital was 41.9 per cent.

With pretax profit up from £46.1 million to £60.4 million, and targets still in place, Glynwed is clearly set for fresh records in 1988.

The three main operating legs - consumer and building products; steels and engineering; tubes and fittings - all performed well last year.

While last year's growth came fundamentally from Glynwed's existing operations, there was also a small positive contribution from the four acquisitions made during the year. These involved an overall cash outlay of £27.2 million.

With the balance sheet in good shape, more acquisitions are likely as this year unfolds. The South African interest,

which is in the books at £3 million, managed a £6 million turnover in 1987 but ran up a £1 million loss. It is unlikely to be within the Glynwed fold for much longer.

The conundrum is that Glynwed, which consistently serves up growth, has a rating which belies its prospects.

On the conservative estimate that pretax profits will get to the £74 million mark this year, the shares at 473p offer a prospective price earnings ratio of 10.75.

As the growth message gets through, the shares should go higher.

Buy now.

## Pentland

## Industries

After several years of soaring shares - based on soaring profits at 32 per cent-owned Reebok - glamour stock Pentland Industries has fallen out of favour. The shares closed down 3p at 133p yesterday, against a high last year of £280p.

The disenchantment stems from a high dollar exposure and worries that production of Reebok's sought-after running shoes had been badly disrupted by political unrest in South Korea.

The disruption turned out

to be minor and Reebok's contribution powered ahead, albeit at a slightly slower speed. The weak dollar knocked pretax profits 12 per cent lower.

If 1986 exchange rates had been used, profits last year would have shown a rise of 9.3 per cent. Non-Reebok profits from clothing and footwear distribution also suffered from adverse currency movements, but still managed a 25 per cent rise to £13 million pretax.

The reaction appears to be overdue. Demand for Reebok shoes shows no sign of running out of steam, with orders at the start of the year 43 per cent higher at £702 million (£379 million).

Reebok is holding its premier position in the US market, well ahead of Nike.

The balance sheet is bulging with cash. At the year-end, Pentland had £42.3 million in the kitty, equivalent to 15.5p per share. The value of its investment in Reebok, at current Wall Street prices, is about £319 million which adds up to 114p per share.

The non-Reebok assets are valued at only 35p per share. Pretax profits are expected to reach £80 million this year, giving a prospective p/e ratio of 7.6. Hardly demanding, given the company's track record.

## STOCK MARKET

## Stores shine in pre-Budget lethargy

Leading retailers, which will clearly benefit from any tax cuts announced by the Chancellor, brightened an uninspiring eve-of-Budget trading session, as Warburg Securities, the broker, produced a bullish six monthly review of the sector.

After the drastic underperformance over the past six months and seemingly endless profit downgrades, Mr Robert Miller and his team at Warburg reckon the worst is now over for the main stores groups.

The reason for their renewed enthusiasm is that they take a bullish view of the British economy in general and expect a 4 per cent rise in consumer growth this year and 3 per cent next year.

They also believe that the retail sector's earnings should show a strong recovery in 1988/89 with earnings growth bouncing from 9 per cent in the current year to 14 per cent in 1988/89, and feel that the retailers themselves now are taking a far more realistic view on growth prospects.

Burton Group, Dixons Group, Marks and Spencer, Next, Ratsers, WH Smith and Ward White Group are all recommended in the review and generally all showed gains ranging to 6p.

Marks and Spencer, the jewel in the high street's crown, which recently surprised the market with its £770 million (£416.21 mil-

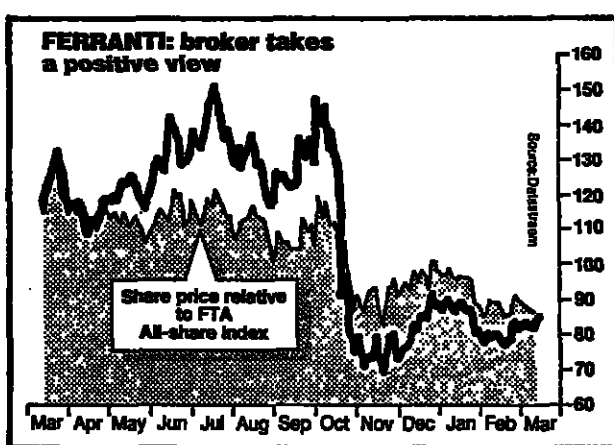
## Wall Street, page 31

lion) offer for Brooks Bros, the leading US menswear chain, attracted most interest, closing 2.5p better at 181.5p after a turnover of more than 4 million shares.

Burton Group, the second largest British clothing retailer which is headed by Sir Ralph Halpern, is also reckoned to be a buy by Kleinwort Grierson Securities, the broker, and moved up 2p to 254p.

Sentiment in stores was also helped by the higher February retail sales figures.

Elsewhere, the equity market held quietly firm awaiting



today's narrative from the Chancellor.

The FT-SE 100 share index moved up to stand 9 points higher at about 4 pm, helped by the opening gain on Wall Street before reacting to finish 7.9 points up at 1,819.5. The narrower FT index of 30 blue chips closed 10.1 points higher at 1,460.0.

Gilt-edged stocks showed gains ranging to a full point at one stage as dealers got the scent of lower interest rates, but some profit-taking towards the close cut the rise to ½p.

Two newcomers got off to a flying start on the Unlisted Securities Market. GWR, the West Country independent radio group, in which Aspen Communications holds a 23.4 per cent stake, opened at 355p compared with the 225p level at which the shares were introduced to the market by Stock Beech, the broker.

The shares improved steadily to close at 400p, for an opening premium of 175p.

Pison, the manufacturer of hand-held computers, opened at 100p compared with the placing price of 97p and advanced to 114p before closing.

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and has the firepower to do so. Brokers think that Mr Ashcroft could well have sold his 2 per cent stake on to Sir Owen Green, the chairman of BTR.

Shares of BTR advanced 9p to 261p on a turnover approaching 4 million shares as investors chased them higher ahead of Thursday's preliminary results.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, is a fan of BTR and has been advising clients to buy the shares on the run-up to the figures. BZW believes the group continued to trade well in the second half and is going for pretax profits of £596 million against the £505 million attained last year.

Pilkington, the St Helens, Lancashire, glassmaker, in which BTR still holds a 3.7 per cent stake, moved up 3p to 223p as about 1 million shares changed hands.

Owners Abroad, Britain's fourth largest travel company, held firm at 79.5p, but could soon have a run.

Word in the market is that Mr John Ferriday and Mr Richard Smith, who control the charter airline, Paragon, and Eagle Trust, the Midlands mini-conglomerate, have turned down a 110p a share bid for their 15 per cent stake in Owners Abroad, but would be willing sellers at 120p. Eagle Trust, a rising market of late, held steady at 18.5p.

Consolidated Tern, the USM-listed construction and property "shell", jumped to 54p at one stage before closing 4p higher at 51p on persistent speculative buying.

A story doing the rounds was that Tern, which underwent a board change and capital injection last summer, but reported a pretax loss of £3.8 million last month, could

soon find itself involved in a reverse takeover with Nautic-wide Estates.

Ferranti, the electronics group, which takes in International Signal and Control, advanced by 3.5p to 86p on a turnover of more than 7 million shares. Robert Fleming Securities, the broker, upgraded its rating on the shares from a hold to a buy.

Having been neutral on the stock for some considerable time, Fleming has raised its pretax profit estimate for 1988/89 from £101.3 million to £103.3 million because of rosier prospects for the group's Computer Systems division.

Fleming believes that growth here seems set to accelerate in 1988/89 and is increasing its estimate of its trading contribution by £2 million to £26.1 million.

GEC firmed ½p to 157p in thin trade on talk of a meeting with Smith New Court, the broker. Just recently GEC announced details of the proposed merger of its telecommunications business with that of Plessey. Dealers are now hoping that the lunch with Smith will have provided the first indications of what the merger will mean to both sides.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

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# UK firms win power station contracts worth £200m

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britain's power station builders, who are negotiating to win orders for the three coal-fired power stations and the network of five nuclear stations which are to be ordered in the run up to the power industry's privatisation, have won orders worth almost £200 million in the Far East.

The larger of the contracts, for a coal-fired station at Yue Yang in Hunan, China worth a total of £165 million has been placed with GEC.

The contract, won with help of loan facilities offered by the British Government to China, will be formally signed this weekend at a ceremony in Yue Yang.

GEC will provide two 362-megawatt generators for the power station and a FKI-Babcock has been awarded a sub-

contract to build the boiler equipment. GEC, which has already won a contract to build part of the Daya Bay nuclear power station in Southern China, will be responsible for commissioning of the station, with power due to start flowing in 1990.

The second contract worth £25 million has been won by Northern Engineering Industries (NEI), which competed against GEC for the Yue Yang contract along with Balfour Beatty.

NEI has beaten competition from rivals including Westinghouse of the United States and Brown Boveri of Switzerland and has won the contract without Government aid.

It will build a 350-megawatt generator for the Lamma Island coal-fired power station

in Hong Kong and the contract will provide work for the company's 3,000 staff on Tyneside for three years.

Mr Graham Anderson, NEI's deputy chairman, said the deal would provide the company with "an excellent shop window" and increase its chances of winning further work in mainland China.

It is significant that NEI has broken the dominance of the Japanese turbine maker Mitsubishi in the Hong Kong market.

At the same time it has secured a separate project management deal with Mitsubishi relating to the power station development where it beat the Japanese company to the turbine contract.

Working closely with Mit-

subishi should also give NEI a better chance of becoming a regular member of consortia bidding for power station orders in the Far East.

The main generator will be built at NEI's Parsons plant in Newcastle upon Tyne, providing job security for three years for the 3,000 employed there.

There will be also benefits for NEI Electronics at Gateshead, which will produce control and instrumentation equipment for the project.

The main transformers will be supplied by NEI plant in Peebles, Edinburgh. There is a 1,000 strong workforce at both Gateshead and Peebles.

The contract is the first turbine order to be won by NEI since 1984.

## Foreign firms rush for Vita aid

By Cliff Feltham

Foreign furniture manufacturers are beating a path to the door of British Vita, the Manchester company, which has developed a fire-resistant foam to meet regulations coming into force next February.

The company has had a flood of inquiries from overseas manufacturers who will need to ensure that foam fillings in furniture and bedding to be sold in Britain meet future combustion requirements.

British Vita, which yesterday announced a sharp increase in last year's profits, has been closely involved with a government working party setting standards for flame-resistant foam.

The foams have been used previously in the contract furniture market only, but will now be used by domestic furniture manufacturers, following widespread concern over fire risk in the home.

Mr Bob McGee, chairman, said: "We are a long way ahead of our competition and already making foams which are likely to come very close to meeting the new rules."

"A lot of overseas manufacturers want our products because they will need to conform to regulations if they want to sell their furniture in the Britain."

British Vita announced pre-tax profits of £28.2 million for last year, up from £19.7 million previously. The improvement reflected better profit margins and a reduction in the final quarter interest charge, following the £42 million raised from a rights issue launched before the stock market crash. The dividend payout for the year is 9.16p.

Sales last year rose from £237 million to £271 million but are likely to be around £420 million in the current year after the acquisition of three businesses - Metzeler Schaum, Uniroyal Thermoplastics, and Pennine Fibre.

British Vita is unlikely to make any acquisitions for the time being, although companies in the £5 million to £15 million range could be strapped on to existing operations.

On the stock market, the shares finished the day at 435p, down 1p.

## COMMENT Kuwait's secret target could be the forecourt

Uncharacteristically, the Kuwait Investment Office has broken its silence over its involvement in BP. At first one of its investment managers said that it would stop buying into BP once it held 22.5 per cent of the shares, then its deputy manager said that 22.5 per cent was a limit it would not necessarily stop at. It could be said that the traditional total silence may have been more informative.

However, BP and the Government will undoubtedly be working hard behind the scenes, using all their contacts at oil company and government level within Kuwait to find out exactly what are Kuwait's intentions. The BP shareholders, the other 78-odd per cent, will also be anxious to know what Kuwait is up to and BP will be anxious to have as much information available for them at the forthcoming annual meeting in the Royal Albert Hall.

Until a clear statement is made by the ruling Al Sabah family, speculation will continue and the BP share price will languish beneath the value which almost every oil analyst puts on it.

So far Kuwait has limited itself to saying that it will not seek a seat on the BP board or will not seek to influence the BP management. BP has said that as it previously lived with a 31.5 per cent block of its shares held by a government, in that case the British government, it can

live with such a shareholding. It will be up to us, say BP managers, to show that we are still as independent as we ever were.

Meanwhile, motorists throughout Europe and in certain parts of Britain will have noticed that the Q8 petrol brand is now sold at a growing number of stations and there are suggestions that that is where Kuwait's true ambitions lie.

As an oil producer it wants to make more money from its oil, and what better way than to convert it into the expensive oil products needed by the public and sell it at a profit on the forecourts.

The answer to the question asked about Kuwait's intentions with BP could lie in this area. It already has taken control of the former BP outlets in Denmark and profits from refining in other mainland European countries have been less than sparkling thanks to fierce forecourt competition. BP has also said that it wants to reduce its debts so that it is equipped to make acquisitions in the markets it specialises in - Britoil in the North Sea is a case in point. It now earns more than half its income from the US and would like to strengthen its retail outlets in the West Coast.

If retail and refining assets on mainland Europe are to be sold, it could be beneficial to sell them to an existing shareholder, perhaps even in return for shares.

## Generating the big one

Selling electricity to the public promises to be an even bigger challenge than British Telecom, when the Kleinwort Benson team brought off the first big exercise in converting privatization into mass share ownership. To start with, there are 14 companies to sell rather than one. And some are likely to prove a lot more attractive than others.

Kleinwort deputy chairman Lord Rockley, who will head a large and experienced team, believes it is unrealistic to think of flotation before 1990. The Electricity Bill should be presented early next session, but will not be completed before the summer of 1989, which would leave little time to sort out the complexities of reorganizing the companies and putting all those prospectuses together for autumn 1989 flotations.

He thinks that the public is more likely to identify with the electricity boards that send the bills and that "most

people probably do not know much about the generating side." The boards will certainly move to centre stage. The 12 will have to be privatized separately but simultaneously, marketed to their own regional customers.

There will also need to be complex arrangements to sell them to institutions and underwriters. This will require new techniques, possibly including a temporary arrangements to sell chunks of each of the 12 boards together as a package deal.

The new 30 per cent generator does not even exist beyond the White Paper, but is more likely to attract the City than small investors. But the biggest uncertainties surround the rump of the CEBG. This will contain all the nuclear stations - and the nuclear programme - which will put off many investors. Yet there is sense in Lord Marshall's dictum that if the industry was broken up to competition, he would want to be a generator.

## MAI on even keel despite storms

By Colin Campbell

MAI, the money-broking and media group, believes it has weathered October's financial storms in reasonable shape and, despite a sharp downturn in wholesale broking volumes, reports a pretax profit of £24.4 million compared with £24.1 million for the six months ended December.

Turnover in the six months was £152.9 million compared with £140.8 million. The group is maintaining the interim dividend at 1.2p a share.

Sir Ian Morrow, chairman, gave warning however that while moneybroking and government broking activity has recovered from the low levels of November and December, overall volumes in the wholesale broking division are below last year's.

He adds that the Eurobond market remains quiet and that the second half contribution from the US operations will be reduced by the weakness of the dollar.

MAI last week announced a joint venture with the French brokers Tuffier et Associes to create an interdealer broker in the French government securities market.

After a Monopolies Commission ruling that it had too many poster boardings, the group is selling 15 per cent of its stock of 48 sheet panes used for outdoor advertising, but Sir Ian adds that there was good demand for outdoor advertising in Britain and Belgium, which helped lift interim media profits from £3.74 million to £4.9 million.

Market research profits advanced in dollar terms and several new clients were won.

MAI shares were 2p easier at 109p.

## New Glynwed plan to leave S Africa



Fresh set of records: Glynwed's Gareth Davies yesterday

Glynwed International, the Aga stove and building products group, is looking to sell its remaining South African interest this year, Mr Gareth Davies, chairman, said yesterday (Colin Campbell writes).

The South African operation, which was on the point of being sold late last year before the purchaser withdrew, ran up a £1 million loss in 1987 on a £6 million turnover. The asset is valued in Glynwed's books at £3 million.

Glynwed established a fresh set of records in the year ended December. Pretax profits

were 31 per cent higher at £60.4 million, turnover was 16.1 per cent higher at £556.2 million, and the return on capital improved by 19 per cent to 41.9 per cent.

The final dividend is being raised from 6.5p to 7.8p a share, making 12.12p (10.1p) for the year. The group proposes a scrip issue of the basis of one-for-two.

The shares rose by 3p to 473p. Mr Davies said: "All indications are that the group has made a strong start to the year, and that 1988 will be a year of further growth."

Tempos, page 26

## Pentland profit hit by dollar

By Alison Eadie

Pentland Industries, the industrial holding company with a 32 per cent stake in the Reebok sports shoe empire, suffered a 12 per cent pretax profits decline to £68 million in the year ended December, due to the fall in the value of the dollar.

Pentland translated its profits at the year-end rate of \$1.88, against an exchange rate the previous year of \$1.48. If 1986 exchange rates had been used, last year's profits would have shown an increase of 9.8 per cent. In local currency terms, nearly all parts of the group turned in improved performances.

The popularity of Reebok's running shoes shows no signs of abating, and orders at January 1 were worth £702 million (£379 million) against £490 million a year earlier. Pentland is still trying to diversify its earnings away from the heavy dependence on Reebok. Tempos, page 26

## Keep leaps to record of £4.3m

By Carol Ferguson

The Keep Trust, the motor distribution company, had a record year last year. Pretax profits jumped 59 per cent to £4.3 million on turnover up 17 per cent to £91 million.

The dividend was raised by a third to 9p, compared with 6.75p in the previous year.

The company said that the good results were recorded across the group's operations, but were especially good in the motor division which distributes Ford and Vauxhall cars.

Keep's Wickstead Leisure subsidiary, which manufactures children's playground equipment, had a less marked improvement in its profits. The cost of meeting the shift from traditional playground equipment to more sophisticated products has been a direct charge on the profit and loss account.

At the end of October 1987, Dr A.J.F. (Tony) O'Reilly, the chairman and chief executive of HJ Heinz, was appointed chairman of Keep.

## Wolseley up 28% to £41m

By Our City Staff

Wolseley, the central heating and plumbing distribution group, saw its interim profits rise by 28 per cent to £41 million in the half year to January 31.

Turnover was up 23 per cent to £578 million. In Britain, a strong performance on the back of a buoyant

building industry saw margins widen and profits rise by 30 per cent to £19 million.

In the US, the group grew organically through its Ferguson subsidiary on the West Coast and by the acquisition of Farnham on the East Coast. North America now accounts for a quarter of profits. Ferguson's sales were up by

almost 30 per cent on last year, with branches opened in 15 locations during the period. Farnham, which was acquired on November 1, contributed £1.79 million to trading profit for the three months it was owned by the group.

The interim dividend was raised by 15 per cent from 1p to 2.3p net.

## With one bound the duo is free

So much for retirement. John O'Leary and John Chivers, ex-directors of jobbing firm Akroyd & Smithers, owned by Warburg Securities, who managed to unlock their golden handcuffs last September, are back. The colourful duo, frequently to be found sipping £50 bottles of champagne in Bill Bentley's at lunchtime, have returned to the Square Mile after a five-month sabbatical and are now working "on a consultancy basis" with Canadian broker Continental Carlsle Douglas. They have apparently been brought on board by Continental director Robin Blunden. "He is a great mate of ours - we've known him for at least 20 years," says O'Leary, who admits that after 28 years in the City they both found it hard to stay away. "After having had so much fun on the floor of the Stock Exchange we didn't like finding seven TV screens in front of us each morning," O'Leary tells me. "We also took the view that we didn't like the way the market was going and we got out just two weeks before the crash - but having said that, it was 60 per cent luck and 40 per cent decision. Now we think the market is right again."

## Diamond rush

If there is now an unseemly rush to put the names of grandchildren down for a career with De Beers, the diamond house has only itself to blame after its centenary birthday bash at the weekend.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY How to hack Britain

The English Tourist Board should, methinks, have a quiet word in an influential ear at accountant Coopers & Lybrand. A large job advertisement has been published in the Sydney Morning Herald attempting to persuade recently-qualified Australian accountants to spend two or more years in Britain with the firm. Beneath a picture postcard-style photograph of an English

cathedral is the heading: "Young Accountants. Even if you don't enjoy the UK you'll advance your career." "We do have problems selling Britain Down Under," admits London spokeswoman Susan Cottam. "They still have an image of Britain as it was in the early 1980s, when the economy was declining." But they are hardly doing their bit to change it.

In the very best tradition of employees being given a part of the production for which they were responsible - socks if you work in a sock factory; newspapers for those in the print - De Beers has capped the generosity stakes by giving each and every one of its 26,000 employees and pensioners in southern Africa a

polished diamond. Their size and value has, however, not been disclosed.

De Beers is, I hear, planning a similar birthday thrash in London in May - and staff here should keep their fingers crossed for a similar surprise.

## On the rails

It is not, it seems, only stocks and shares that have fallen in value during the past six months. So too has the price of British Rail stations. BR has, I hear, just agreed to sell Stockton station to a local historical society for £1. Although the platform is still in daily use, Stockton and Darlington Railway Preservation Society is acquiring the adjacent buildings to establish a steam locomotive museum. "It will create employment and interest and put us on the map," says society chairman Mike Wilson, an ICI executive. The Stockton to Darlington line is, after all, Britain's oldest.



"I hate Budget Day - he always gives up smoking"

## Making matches

Burke's Peerage was, it turns out, the unlikely marriage broker between Klean-eze and home shopping specialist NSP Group, which Klean-eze bought last week for £11 million. For Anglophile Ned Cook, a multi-millionaire born and bred in Memphis, Tennessee, contacted NSP chairman Nigel Swabey as the "guru of the home shopping industry," when he was in the running to buy Burke's last year. "I thought Burke's was a marvellous name which could be used to market all sorts of products," Cook, aged 65, tells me. "One of my ideas was to have a home shopping catalogue and I nearly bought NSP then." Instead, after a fishing trip on the River Kennet where he met Klean-eze chairman John Gough, Cook - awarded the DFC from the US Air Force for his efforts in the desert campaign - bought the controlling stake in the brushes-to-cleaning fluid group from the founding family. "It so happened that Klean-eze was also trying to get into the home shopping market and so now I've brought the two together," he says.

● Diplomatic though it might be, Professor Roland Smith, chairman of British Aerospace, will not be hiring a Honda during his stay in Tokyo this week. For the Professor, aged 59, who is masterminding BAe's bid for Rover, does not, I hear, know how to drive. It is appropriate then that his sole recreation listed in Who's Who is "walking."

Carol Leonard

## DIAMOND SERVICE

# GUESS WHO'S FIRST INTO AMSTERDAM?

It's not British Airways. Not even KLM. Starting March 28th, only British Midland will fly you into Amsterdam by 9.00am - and put you on the last flight out.

In fact we'll have more weekday flights between Heathrow and Amsterdam than any other airline. Which means our schedule will fit your schedule.

And every British Midland flight to Amsterdam is Diamond Service. Which means you get the full Business Class treatment.

If you are flying to Amsterdam, you know which airline means business.

LHR	AMS	AMS	LHR
07.00	09.00	07.25	07.25
08.15	10.15	09.30	09.30
11.00	13.00	11.30	11.30
12.15	14.15	13.30	13.30
14.15	16.15	15.30	15.30
16.15	18.15	17.30	17.30
18.15	20.15	19.30	19.30
20.15	22.15	21.00	21.00



THE MOST WEEKDAY FLIGHTS BETWEEN HEATHROW AND AMSTERDAM.

BRITISH MIDLAND



## Discussions 'positive and constructive' EEC 'surprised' by BA concessions over B-Cal merger

By Colin Narborough

British Airways surprised the EEC Commission with its "positive and constructive" approach at talks last week that led to BA making important concessions in return for Brussels' blessing of its takeover of British Caledonian, senior EEC officials said yesterday.

The surprise is all the more welcome because it is seen by the Commission as a sign that British industry is starting to take seriously the EEC's drive to establish an effective system of Community-wide merger controls, even if the British Government remains opposed to the idea.

Initially, both Lord King, BA's chairman, and the Government were dismissive of the role the Commission took to prevent any possible anti-competitive effects the tie-up would have. Clearance by the British authorities was regarded as the final word.

But, while BA would appear to have changed its tune when the Commission opened its formal scrutiny of the BA/B-Cal merger, the Government has continued to ignore Brussels' attempts to formulate EEC merger policy.

While last week's green paper on restrictive trade practices was very much in line with EEC thinking, Mr Francis Maude, the Corporate Affairs Minister, said it was not feasible to adapt British



Lord Young: speedy mergers



Lord King: concessions

mergers policy to the Commission's "draft level" plans.

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has made clear that he considers British controls more sophisticated than those operating in most other EEC member states, and does not want "Eurocrats" slowing the merger-vetting

process he is trying to speed up.

Faced with reluctant governments in Britain and France, Mr Peter Sutherland, the EEC Commissioner for Competition, has been appealing directly to industry to help promote EEC merger rules.

This view won endorsement last week from a report on EEC mergers policy drawn up by a group of European law firms, including Britain's Allen & Overy.

The alternative, with the Commission increasing its reliance on powers it already has under the Treaty of Rome, was seen as a less desirable route.

Mr Sutherland is seeking to persuade industry that not only is the Commission capable of offering a speedy system of merger control for big companies, but it would also provide EEC-wide clarity in place of a patchwork of national rules.

Sir Colin Marshall, the chief executive of British Airways, agreed with the Commission last week that BA would not try to obtain licences formerly held by B-Cal on most of the 11 EEC routes on which the two airlines competed.

Furthermore, it would limit the merged carriers' take-off slots at Gatwick to 25 per cent, and would not transfer B-Cal services to Heathrow in a way that might damage competition.

## Takeover rules face changes in France

(Renter) — M Edouard Balladur, the French finance minister, said he has proposed changes to France's takeover rules which will require shareholders who amass more than 10 per cent of a company's capital to declare their final intentions.

He has asked the stock-exchange association (CSAC) and the securities regulatory commission (COB) to implement the changes.

M Balladur has also requested both authorities to consider allowing the targets of takeover bids more flexibility to defend themselves, for example, by increasing their share capital while the subject of a bid.

"Takeovers are a good thing, they allow capital mobility and their development is a sign of health," he said. "But excesses and constant mobility of capital are not good for a company's health."

"A takeover should strike a balance between four factors — French national interests, competition, capital movements and a company's integral identity," he added.

Currently, buyers of a French company's capital have certain thresholds that must be declared within five days as stock is amassed.

These are 5 per cent, 10 per cent, 20 per cent, 33 per cent and 50 per cent. But there is no requirement for a predator to make it known if it plans to bid for control eventually.

French takeovers require acceptance by the CSAC and are subsequently vetted by the COB. The authorities then allow 30 days for a winner to emerge.



Looking forward to further growth: Bob Dodsworth (left), the group chief executive, and Astley Whittall, the chairman, in the City yesterday (Photograph: James Morgan)

## Ransomes Sims & Jefferies hoists profits to £9.7m

By Colin Campbell

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, which sold its low-yielding farm machinery operations to Electrolux for £3.8 million cash last year, believes the main part of its restructuring is over and that the group is well poised for further profits growth this year.

Mr Bob Dodsworth, the chief executive, while outlining a 1987 result showing pretax profits up from £8.04 million to £9.73 million, yesterday said gearing fell from 13.8 per cent to 2.3 per cent over the year. There was a £4.6 million positive cash flow during 1987, he added.

The final dividend is raised from 4.35p to 5.2p a share, making 7.2p (6p) for the year. Turnover was £81 million compared with £69.7 million in 1986.

FH Tomkins, the acquisitive industrial holdings company, is now a 7 per cent shareholder in Ransomes Sims, having raised its stake from the 5.85 per cent level last June.

Ransomes has made a £2.95 million extraordinary debit to cover the terminal loss of the farm machinery business and reorganization of the Ipswich factory. The group has also revalued its British properties,

resulting in a £6.1 million surplus, which is reflected in the 1987 balance sheet.

In the year to end-December the group bought three companies, each of which has covered its interest costs, for a total £2 million. Since the year-end, Ransomes has acquired Steiner Turf in the US.

The improved base and benefits flowing from the sale of the farm machinery business, coupled with the latest acquisition, should see further progress in 1988, Mr Dodsworth says.

The shares rose 2p to 295p.

## Japan 'will take 15% of EEC van sales'

By Daniel Ward  
Motor Industry  
Correspondent

Japanese vans would account for 25 per cent of the European van market if France, Italy and Spain lifted import restrictions, but even with quotas in place, Japanese penetration will reach 15 per cent of the 1.35 million-strong market by 1991, according to a new report by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

Direct imports of Japanese vans will fall from 10 to 7.1 per cent of the up to 2 tonne gvw van sector, the EIU predicts. And in the 2 to 3.5 tonne gvw class they will contract from 12.1 to 7.7 per cent. However, as the overall market in Europe grows from 1.23 million in 1986 to 1.35 million by 1991, the Japanese will counter a decline of 35,000 vehicles to 100,000 direct imports by producing 100,000 vehicles in Europe.

This will be achieved through collaboration agreements already in place. IBC Vehicles, the former Bedford van plant at Luton controlled by Isuzu, builds Isuzu and Suzuki vans and aims to push output to 40,000 a year. VW is to assemble Toyota pickups in Hanover. Nissan vans are built at the company's Spanish subsidiary Motor Iberica; and the most controversial deal is between Mercedes and Mitsubishi, which plan to build vans jointly in Spain.

The light commercial vehicle sector in Western Europe is sustaining momentum into the 1990s. The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited, 40, Duke Street London W1A 1DW. Price £150

## IoD puts schools to the test in computer game

By Roland Rodd

Future senior managers will need an in-depth knowledge of how to use personal computers to solve business problems, according to a survey of management trainees in Britain's largest companies.

The Audience Selection survey, carried out by the Institute of Directors and Lotus Development, the computer software specialists, showed that the majority of trainees learned the use of computer applications in industry, not while they were in full-time education.

To bridge the gap between education and business, the two organizations have launched Business Challenge 1988 — a game to promote broader awareness of business planning and computers in schools and colleges.

School teams, sponsored by companies, are expected to plan a "takeover strategy", evaluate alternative strategies, and rationalize two imaginary companies after takeovers.

The teams will be judged on their ability to manage all aspects of the newly formed company, and their success depends on making the right decision on the takeover bid and maximizing the cumulative profit of the company.

Launching the IoD-Lotus Business Challenge initiative, Sir John Hoskyns, director-general of the IoD, said: "We have called upon business leaders to set themselves a new task — the creation of an enterprise culture."

"Our essential requirement is to raise the quality of business leadership and develop the human talent of British business."

"We hope that through Business Challenge, businesses will forge closer links with schools."

"The importance of this objective is paramount when you look at the survey's conclusion that 50 per cent of the future directors had no exposure to personal computers during their education."

The survey found that 80 per cent of Britain's management trainees are given a personal computer or have access to one. While they are expected to make use of this technology, half of those questioned said they had received no training.

Mr Paul Bailey, the managing director of Lotus Development UK, said: "This underlines the need for education and business to develop closer links. It underlines that Business Challenge is a worthwhile initiative for education as well as business."

## Analysts forecast 16% profit jump at HK bank

Hong Kong (Renter) — The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is likely to report a 16 to 18 per cent rise in its 1987 profit to as much as HK\$3.65 billion (£252.75m) from HK\$3.05 billion a year ago.

Analysts said extremely strong exports and local loan demand helped the bank to sustain its double-digit growth, even though the group's profits during the second half were not as strong as for the first half.

Last August, the bank reported consolidated net profits of HK\$1.41 billion for the first half of 1987.

Analysts said they were optimistic about Hong Kong Bank's results, following strong growth reported by its subsidiaries. Last week, Wardley Holding Ltd, its wholly owned merchant banking arm, reported net profits of HK\$430 million for 1987, against HK\$177 million in 1986.

On Friday, the Hang Seng Bank Ltd reported a 21.7 per cent profit rise to HK\$1.28 billion and proposed a one-for-four bonus issue.

Analysts said Hong Kong Bank is also likely to make a capitalization issue of similar order, but a rights issue, about which there had been speculation recently, is highly unlikely.

"No fresh capital is likely to be needed either by the Hong Kong Bank at a group level or by Hang Seng Bank," said Mr

John Mulcahy, of stock-brokers Scrimgeour Vickers.

The Hong Kong Bank made a HK\$3.3 billion rights issue last April and has issued US\$1.2 billion in perpetual floating rate notes (PFRN) over the past two years.

At the end of 1987, Hong Kong Bank acquired the 48 per cent of Marine Midland it did not already own, and took a 14.9 per cent stake in Midland.

Mr Mulcahy forecast a HK\$3.6 billion profit for the bank in 1987.

Hong Kong Bank has said its published results will not be affected by Marine Midland's 1987 losses, to be treated as an extraordinary item taken directly to its inner reserves.

Another major contributor to the bank's profit is James Capel. Although the stock-broking arm has been hurt by the October crash, Mr Mulcahy said losses have likely been absorbed by the substantial profits accumulated earlier in the year.

On the other hand, the bank may well face more problems with Midland Bank. "The Hong Kong Bank may have to support Midland's HK\$60 billion of LDC exposure, which is currently only 27 per cent provided for," Miss Helen

resul, of SBCI, said. "As a result, we have revised our earnings estimate for the Hong Kong Bank in 1987 down from HK\$3.72 billion to HK\$3.35 billion."

## BIRMINGHAM

BY 1992 THERE'LL BE NO BARRIERS ON THIS ROUTE

## BARCELONA

## Our 1987 results show we're well on course for the new Europe.

The year ended 31st December 1987 was a successful one for TDG.

Pre-tax profits increased to £43.5 million — a new record for the group — achieving a compound growth rate of 19.2% per annum over the seven years 1981-87.

Concentrating on transport, storage, distribution and a number of related activities, we have generated a turnover of £549 million for 1987 (which would have been greater, but for severe currency fluctuations over the

year). And we have increased earnings per share in the past year by 16.9%.

Although the contribution of our subsidiary companies in North America and Australia was significant, the majority of this profit came from our operations in the UK and continental Europe.

It is against this background that we are looking forward to the new 'deregulated' Europe.

By 1992 we shall be exceptionally well-placed to take advantage of Europe's

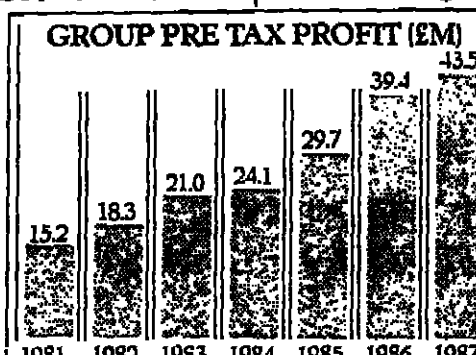
new opportunities, and her expanded markets. We have, for some time, thought as Europeans. And, as the figures show, we have a record of solid, stable growth over the years.

By 1992, there should be no barriers to our success in the new, challenging Europe.

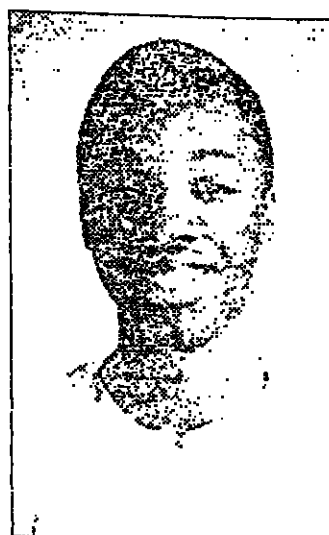
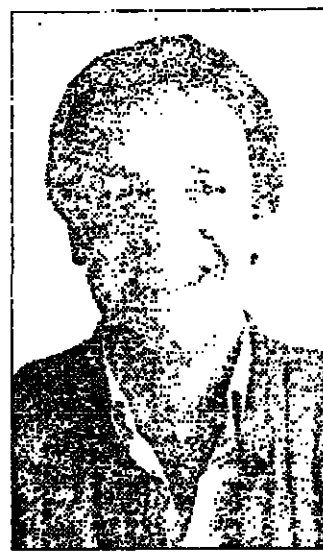


Transport Development Group PLC

For a copy of the Annual Report, which will be published on 30th March, please write to Transport Development Group PLC, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NR.

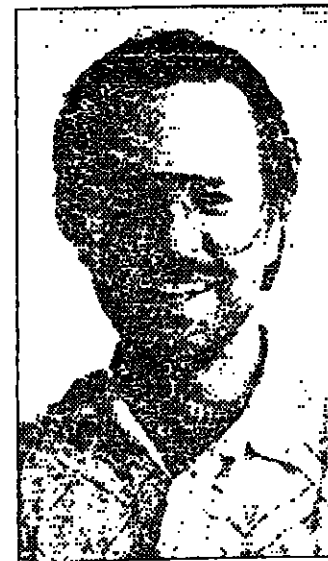
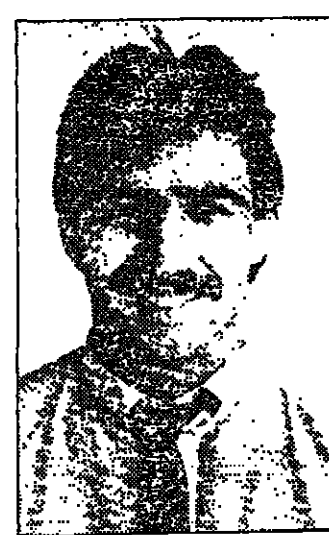
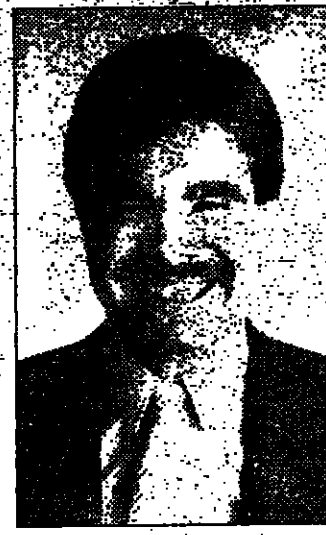
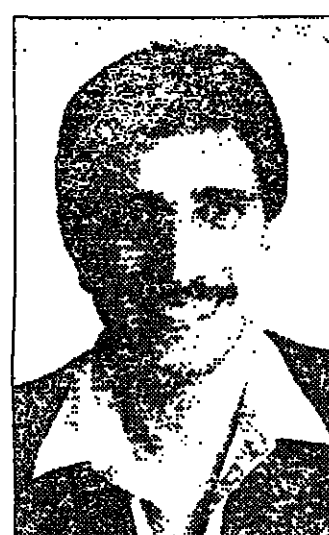
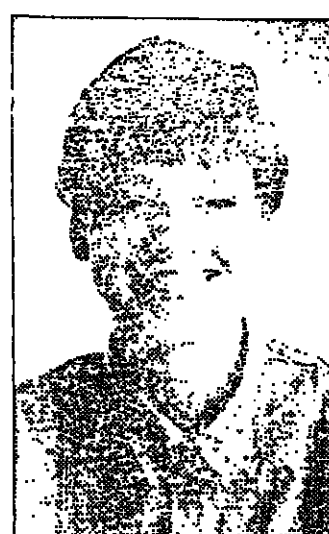









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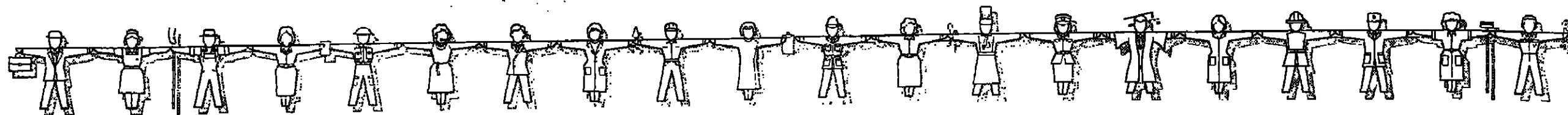
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## Davidson Pearce ahead at £4.1m

By Allison Eadie

Davidson Pearce Group, the advertising and marketing services agency, made pretax profits in the year to end-December of £4.1 million, compared with £3.9 million the previous year.

Operating profits fell to £3.15 million from £3.6 million last year after the loss of some big accounts, including British Gas, Dunhill and TWA.

Mr Daniel Hodson, the chief executive who joined from Unigate last October, will be taking over the chairmanship due to the retirement of Mr Chris Hawes.

The advertising agency is back on track and winning new accounts.

The company is still looking for acquisitions after this year's purchases of Product Plus and Davis, Gibson Advertising.

Mr Hodson said he wanted to add on acquisitions in the two core areas, rather than complete a mega-deal.

At the year end Davidson Pearce had cash of £1.9 million and is still in a net cash position.

The dividend was raised by 10 per cent, which is 4.1 times covered.

City not convinced SE chief has qualifications needed for his new job

## Is TSB right to bank on Goodison?



Sir Nicholas Goodison: his lack of experience may be a handicap

The lack of reaction in the share price of the TSB Group to the news that Sir Nicholas Goodison is to become chairman next year was an eloquent comment on the appointment. The stock market has yet to be convinced that the chairman of the Stock Exchange is the right man for the job.

In the words of one senior clearing banker: "This was an opportunity missed. What the TSB really needed was someone with long experience of the industry." The worry is simply whether Sir Nicholas has the personal authority and professional skills to carry the TSB through a crucial period of rapid change which will determine the group's position in the British banking market for years to come.

Even after its flotation in 1986, the TSB remains a unique banking group. It is one of the five largest clearing banks in Britain, but unlike its peers, has no overseas exposure to speak of. That should leave it in a strong position, but the bank's shares are among the worst performers in the sector.

The reason is largely its sluggish earnings growth. After raising £1.5 billion in the flotation, the TSB found itself with more capital than it needed. It has prudently taken

its time to invest this money, but took large strides in that direction last year with significant purchases including Target, the fund management group, and Hill Samuel, the merchant bank. These acquisitions, though sensible in terms of group strategy, will take time to show through in earnings.

As a result, Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, for example, estimates that the TSB's earnings

per share will rise by a meagre 15 per cent over the next two years, from 14.9p to 17.1p.

The recent purchases reflect the TSB's determination to be seen not just as a bank but as a rounded financial services group.

To gain the most out of this expansion and to push earnings growth ahead as fast as possible, the TSB needs a firm leadership with detailed

understanding of financial services. Though Sir Nicholas understands the stock market better than most, his lack of experience in other financial areas may be a handicap.

The TSB is also trying to develop its traditional banking areas. It is making a determined push, for example, into commercial lending, a market it has never been in before. It is also trying to readjust from its traditional

base in the north of England and Scotland with older, lower income depositors by moving up-market and opening more branches in the South-east.

As Mr Patrick Frazer, banking analyst for Morgan Grenfell Securities, put it: "The TSB needs someone with real high street retailing expertise who knows how to sell services to the public."

The TSB board may have favoured Sir Nicholas because of his undoubted experience in guiding institutions through periods of great change. But that requires a strong, effective manager. Sir Nicholas's role at the Stock Exchange has been mainly political while his executive experience is limited to a small to medium-sized stock broking firm, Quilter Goodison.

This gives rise to worries over his role, as presented by the outgoing chairman, Sir John Reed, of planning group strategy as well as simply presenting it to the outside world. What will Sir Nicholas bring to this role in strategic understanding that an experienced banker could not?

Matters are not helped by confusion within the TSB and in the stock market over how much influence Sir Nicholas will wield over the day to day running of the group. Sir John took an active part, with

mixed results. Analysts would prefer it if Sir Nicholas remained essentially non-executive.

This, however, would mean an important change in the way the banking group is run, with more power devolving on to the chief executive. The crucial question will then be who is to succeed Mr Philip Charlton, the present managing director, when he retires in the next two years. Mr Leslie Priestley, head of TSB England and Wales, and Mr David Davies, chief executive of Hill Samuel, are both widely tipped as candidates for the job.

But whatever role Sir Nicholas adopts, there is one pressing matter with which he may be well suited to deal. The TSB's origins make it a strangely diverse group, its two main branches, the England and Wales bank and the Scottish bank, fiercely maintain their individuality. On top of them has been placed the TSB Group, a body responsible for planning but many of whose powers are ill defined. There are frequently tensions between these three. A non-executive chairman with Sir Nicholas's skills could help reduce such internal group frictions.

Richard Thomson  
Banking Correspondent

## Firestone considers Pirelli bid talks

Chicago (Reuters) - The Firestone Tire & Rubber Co yesterday said it was analysing an offer by Pirelli to meet and negotiate all terms of the Italian company's \$58 a share tender offer for Firestone.

Mr John Nevin, the Firestone chairman and chief executive, said he had told Pirelli that Firestone and its financial and legal advisers were analysing the offer.

A week ago, Pirelli launched a tender for Firestone valued at about \$1.85 billion (£1.01 billion).

Mr Nevin had previously told Firestone shareholders that the board would complete its review and advise them by March 18.

Last week Firestone filed a counterclaim in a US court against Pirelli and other parties. The counterclaim was a response to a suit against Firestone started by Veere Inc, the US unit of Pirelli making the tender. On March 8, the court denied Veere's motion for a temporary restraining order declaring Ohio's Takeover Act as unconstitutional.

In its counterclaim, Firestone said Veere's offer should not proceed until full and adequate disclosure was made about Veere under federal securities regulations.

## Armstrong's half-year profit rises to £4.1m

By Colin Campbell

Armstrong Equipment, the specialist engineer serving the automotive, aerospace and defence industries, is seeking acquisition opportunities and aims to reduce its gearing further, the board says in its interim report.

Helped by lower interest charges and improved margins, group pretax profit in the six months ended December rose from £3.6 million to £4.1 million, even though turnover was down from £65.6 million to £60.5 million.

The interim dividend rises from 0.9p to 1.1p a share.

Gearing, which stood at 41 per cent at last balance sheet date, had fallen to 41 per cent following the disposal of unprofitable businesses and reductions in working capital.

### RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		RIVERMERC AM INC	
AMI Healthcare (215p)	284.46	Selective Ass	72.41
Archer (A) (130p)	180	Shafsbury (180p)	151
Ass-Henriques 71hp	84.1	Shanks McSwan (85p)	780.40
Aukett Ass (85p)	103	Shorro	117.1
Berry Star	158	TGI (130p)	132
Brit Pet P/P	78.3	TIP Europe	143.2
Carson Phoenix (120p)	160	Titon Higgs (80p)	84.1
Copymore (130p)	136	Transap Higgs (50p)	60
Eurotunnel	328.2		
Eurotunnel Wm	23.2		
Fairway London	80		
GWR Gp	400		
Gardiner Gp (30p)	42.41		
Heffield Est (100p)	115		
Hughes (HT)	73.3		
ISA Int (80p)	116.43		
Innings (50p)	68.42		
Len Forbelling (160p)	159		
Nestor-BNA (75p)	96		
Norfolk House (100p)	106		
Palon	110		

### TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Dealings	For Settlement
February 22	March 11	June 6	June 13
Call options were taken out on: 14/88 Owners Abroad, Amber Day, Kentish Prop, Rover Group, Black Leisure, Fabsco Group NV, Astra Ind, Spang Holdings, Benet Holdings, T Cowie, Palon, AG Stanley.			

### LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Cats					Pigs					Cats					Pigs				
	Series	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Series	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Series	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Series	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Alld Lym	300	75	80	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	Glenn	850	130	150	180	2	17	28	30	30
(588)	330	48	53	63	4	10	10	10	10	10	(H084)	1050	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	
Bass	750	100	105	110	11	22	25	25	25	25	(H137)	1100	10	12	15	20	25	30	30	
Brit Air	850	27	32	37	35	65	65	65	65	65	(H43)	120174	22254	22	24	24	24	24	24	
(171)	180	15	20	25	4	13	15	15	15	15	(H53)	130	74	14	18	22	24	24	24	
Brit Com	180	5	10	14	12	22	24	24	24	24	(H58)	420	75	82	82	82	82	82	82	
(298)	300	10	15	20	15	27	30	30	30	30	(H63)	450	35	42	42	42	42	42	42	
Brit Gas	140	4	13	20	4	13	15	15	15	15	(H68)	220	31	40	40	40	40	40	40	
(143)	140	74	14	18	22	24	24	24	24	24	(H73)	260	2	15	23	23	23	23	23	
BP	180	7	14	17	4	10	12	12	12	12	(H78)	280	1	15	15	15	15	15	15	
(271)	280	1	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	(H83)	300	1	15	15	15	15	15	15	
Brit Ind	320	17	28	38	1	5	10	10	10	10	(H88)	320	7	30	42	42	42	42	42	
(514)	420	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	(H93)	330	2	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Brit Int	480	62	65	70	1	3	5	5	5	5	(H98)	340	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(205)	480	62	65	70	1	3	5	5	5	5	(H03)	350	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Coca Cola	900	85	100	105	115	15	20	20	20	20	(H08)	360	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(950)	900	85	100	105	115	15	20	20	20	20	(H13)	370	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Courtyard	300	12	18	22	8	18	20	20	20	20	(H18)	380	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(320)	300	12	18	22	8	18	20	20	20	20	(H23)	390	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Corn Union	330	15	20	25	7	15	18	18	18	18	(H28)	400	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(329)	330	15	20	25	7	15	18	18	18	18	(H33)	410	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
C & W	330	27	32	37	35	65	65	65	65	65	(H38)	420	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(348)	330	27	32	37	35	65	65	65	65	65	(H43)	430	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
GECC	140	20	26	27	27	5	7	7	7	7	(H48)	440	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(107)	140	20	26	27	27	5	7	7	7	7	(H53)	450	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
GNV	330	15	20	25	7	15	18	18	18	18	(H58)	460	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(350)	330	15	20	25	7	15	18	18	18	18	(H63)	470	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Grand M...	300	105	117	120	10	1	4	4	4	4	(H68)	480	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(490)	300	105	117	120	10	1	4	4	4	4	(H73)	490	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
H	500	18	22	25	20	25	25	25	25	25	(H78)	500	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(1038)	500	18	22	25	20	25	25	25	25	25	(H83)	510	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Jaguar	330	26	30	35	45	65	65	65	65	65	(H88)	520	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(205)	330	26	30	35	45	65	65	65	65	65	(H93)	530	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Land Sec	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H98)	540	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(181)	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H03)	550	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
M & B	500	32	47	60	30	35	35	35	35	35	(H08)	560	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(118)	500	32	47	60	30	35	35	35	35	35	(H13)	570	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
N-Royce	200	2	9	12	20	10	10	10	10	10	(H18)	580	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(128)	200	2	9	12	20	10	10	10	10	10	(H23)	590	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
STC	240	18	21	25	17	21	21	21	21	21	(H28)	600	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(273)	240	18	21	25	17	21	21	21	21	21	(H33)	610	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Stemway	220	24	28	35	35	3	7	7	7	7	(H38)	620	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(240)	220	24	28	35	35	3	7	7	7	7	(H43)	630	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Shell	1100	18	21	25	17	21	21	21	21	21	(H48)	640	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(1049)	1050	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	80	80	(H53)	650	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Storvick	1100	18	21	25	17	21	21	21	21	21	(H58)	660	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(237)	1100	18	21	25	17	21	21	21	21	21	(H63)	670	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Tanger	300	12	18	22	8	18	20	20	20	20	(H68)	680	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(1058)	300	12	18	22	8	18	20	20	20	20	(H73)	690	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
TES	360	13	16	20	13	13	13	13	13	13	(H78)	700	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(109)	360	13	16	20	13	13	13	13	13	13	(H83)	710	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Waterbury	130	3	4	8	13	14	14	14	14	14	(H88)	720	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(260)	130	3	4	8	13	14	14	14	14	14	(H93)	730	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Armed	120	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	(H98)	740	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(172)	120	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	(H03)	750	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Starkey	450	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	80	80	(H08)	760	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(463)	450	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	80	80	(H13)	770	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Beachcom	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H18)	780	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(478)	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H23)	790	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Bears	450	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	80	80	(H28)	800	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(204)	450	37	43	55	65	75	80	80	80	80	(H33)	810	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Birta	220	16	22	28	28	40	40	40	40	40	(H38)	820	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(236)	220	16	22	28	28	40	40	40	40	40	(H43)	830	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
BPH	240	22	28	35	35	3	7	7	7	7	(H48)	840	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(272)	240	22	28	35	35	3	7	7	7	7	(H53)	850	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Brit Chic	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H58)	860	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(494)	420	98	102	112	12	1	4	4	4	4	(H63)	870	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
Chon	180	5	10	14	12	22	24	24	24	24	(H68)	880	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
(108)	180	5	10	14	12	22	24	24	24	24	(H73)	890	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
	220	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(H78)	900	3	18	27	27	27	27	27	
March 14, 1988	Total: 22516 Cats 14644 Pigs 5074																			
	Under 400																			
	FT-SEC: 202 302 0 0 0 0																			



# Brierley writes down share portfolio by £86.4 million

Wellington (Reuters) — Brierley Investments Ltd, New Zealand's largest investment company, which was badly hit in the October crash, yesterday announced it had written down \$237.8 million (£86.4 million) from its share portfolio. The company also expected a big drop in profits this year.

BIL said \$91.9 million of the loss would be taken against profits. The remaining \$145.9 million in portfolio write-downs would be transferred to an investment fluctuation provision, and would not be accounted as a profit or a loss unless and until realized.

In the aftermath of the stock market slump, BIL expected a \$252 million net profit for the year ending June 1988, against \$342 million the previous year, Sir Ron Brierley, the chairman, told shareholders.

The company would rely heavily on asset sales for a large portion of its present year earnings, Sir Ron added.



Relying on asset sales: Sir Ron Brierley, BIL chairman

Last week it reported a six-month net profit of \$75.05 million against \$135.33 million a year ago.

On the credit side, the June-year profit forecast included the \$75 million half-year result, \$262 million from the surplus on the sale of investments since December 31 and

\$169 million in trading and investment income.

The \$91.9 million write-down, to be included in the year-end June profit statement, represented "expedient" investments, many of which were quite small, BIL said. The remaining \$145.9 million write-down covered

shares in 13 companies regarded as more permanent holdings.

BIL has sold holdings in Petroleum Corp of New Zealand Ltd, Winstone Ltd, and Consolidated Metal Industries Ltd for \$661 million to Fletcher Challenge.

Mr Paul Collins, the chief executive, said BIL intended to raise its profile in Europe by sending a director, Mr Trevor Beyer, to London at the end of March.

An air of optimism in the US and Britain, and to a lesser degree Australia, augured well for BIL, Mr Collins added.

● Sydney (Reuters) — Industrial Equity Ltd said it expected to earn a net Aus\$52 million in the year to end-June after proposed investment write-downs of \$87 million. This estimate, contained in IEL's special report to shareholders on its status after the October stock market crash, contrasts with 1986-87 net earnings of \$230.12 million.

## WORLD MARKETS ROUNDUP: NEW YORK

### Blue chips make early gains

(Agencies) — Wall Street stocks showed losses throughout the lists in early trading, but blue chips in general turned higher although the changes were small.

The Dow Jones industrial average was on a rollercoaster ride to a gain of seven points at 2042 and a low point of 2031 but declining share prices led those gaining ground by a margin of three to two.

Mr Larry Wachtel, an analyst at Prudential Bache, the securities house, said there was no definite news to

account for the upturn in blue chip stocks.

"You cannot explain all

#### SINGAPORE

### Traders shop for bargains

(Reuters) — Share prices closed higher on continued buying support and bargain hunting in fairly active trading.

The Straits Times Industrial Index showed a rise of 5.96 points to 946.52 from Friday's close of 940.56.

#### TOKYO

### Cautious dealing as year-end nears

(Reuters) — Share prices closed lower due to a more cautious approach from institutional investors as they start to close their books before the fiscal year-end on March 31 and the release of the US trade figures for January on Thursday.

"Too much is going on for anyone to be aggressive on the buying side," said Mr Simon Smithson, an analyst at Kleinwort Benson International, the securities dealer.

The Nikkei index fell by 110.22 points to 25,433.51,

after hitting a high of 25,533.01 and a low of 25,345.28. It fell 74.09 points on Friday.

Stocks losing ground led those gaining by 2.3 to one in a turnover of 950 million shares against 1.8 billion.

Securities houses, banks, credit/leasing companies, communications, rubber, electronics, pharmaceuticals, precision instruments, gas, non-life insurance and some manufacturing companies declined while rolling stock,

these sudden rises and falls in the market," he said.

Government figures released yesterday on the level of stocks held by United States businesses showed a rise of only 0.4 per cent in January against a revised 0.9 per cent in December. Economists had been expecting a rise of as much as 0.9 per cent in January.

Grolier jumped \$7-3/4 to \$23-5/8. Over the weekend, Hachette, the French publishing house, offered \$21 (£11.36) each in cash for all of the company's share capital.

Services and shipping shares advanced slightly.

Most special money trusts, or tokkins, will close their books this weekend and the overall effect is still in question, brokers said.

The market continued to focus on large capital issues, with the top 10 traded shares in morning trade, mainly steel, heavy machinery and heavy electricals, making up 64.1 per cent of the 620 million noon turnover.

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## SYDNEY

### Prices hold despite dull day

(AP-DJ) — Australian share prices firmed in listless activity, helped by Friday's small recovery on the New York market and firmer metal prices.

Brokers attributed relatively thin volume to the closure of the Melbourne stock exchange for a public holiday.

The All-Ordinary shares index gained 0.3 points to close at 1,360.9. The index was slightly higher in afternoon trading.

Activity focused on key industrial and mining stocks which finished narrowly higher. The broader market was largely unchanged.

Market players said a lack of foreign buying orders deflated activity.

# SKF

## Financial statement, 1987

SKF Group sales for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1987 amounted to 19,604 million Swedish kronor, compared with SEK 18,180 m in 1986. During the past year, SKF decided to apply as from the 1987 annual report, the MNM (monetary-nonmonetary method) in consolidating operations in highly inflationary economies. This method is considered to best provide adjustments for inflationary effects. By applying this method, Group income after financial income and expense amounted to SEK 1,154 m (1,247). Income margin for the year was 5.9 per cent (6.9). According to the old method, income after financial income and expense totalled SEK 1,641 m (1,443). Income margin then was 8.4 per cent (7.9). The figures have been adjusted to exclude steel operations as these are no longer a consolidated part of SKF's accounts.

	Jan-Dec 86	Jan-Dec 87
Sales (MSkr)	18,180	19,604
Operating income (MSkr)	1,321	1,312
Income after financial income and expense (MSkr)	1,247	1,154
Capital expenditure (MSkr)	1,010	1,126
Earnings per share (kronor)	25.80	27.40
Proposed dividend (kronor)	11.00	12.00

Demand for ball and roller bearings continued to rise. However, growth was lower than previously in the large and important bearing markets in the U.S., Western Europe and Japan. Growth was significantly stronger than average in such countries as Brazil and India.

The bearing industry suffered from continuing overcapacity also during 1987, which further sharpened price competition. SKF increased its volumes at a higher rate than market growth, resulting in an improvement in the Group's share of the world market.

In the U.S., SKF continued to improve productivity and earnings. A number of

the European companies also reported success. The strong D-mark slowed industrial growth in West Germany, while at the same time the increasingly weaker U.S. dollar contributed to a shift of Japanese export from the U.S. to Western Europe. As a result, the SKF companies in West Germany and Italy experienced difficulties and reported an earnings decline.

The Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 12.00 per share (11.00).

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28, 1988 in Göteborg.

Aktiebolaget SKF S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden.

## WALL STREET

	Mar 11	Mar 10	Mar 11	Mar 10	Mar 11	Mar 10		
AMR Co	41 1/2	40 1/2	Fedders	62 1/2	62 1/2	Papaco	34 1/2	34 1/2
ASA	47 1/2	46 1/2	Firestone	23 1/2	23 1/2	Picer	54 1/2	54 1/2
Arma Life	46 1/2	46 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Allied Signal	33 1/2	31 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Alex Chalm	1 1/2	1 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Alcoa	44 1/2	44 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Amco Inc	18 1/2	18 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
AMR Hess	40 1/2	40 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Brands	45 1/2	45 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Cymind	50 1/2	50 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Elex Per	27 1/2	27 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Famint	26 1/2	27 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Home	80 1/2	80 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Int Gp	57 1/2	57 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Stand	73 1/2	73 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Am Telp	27 1/2	28 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Amoco Co	74 1/2	74 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Amoco B	32 1/2	32 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Amoco Steel	11 1/2	11 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Asarco Inc	24 1/2	24 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Ashland Oil	42 1/2	42 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
All Right	77 1/2	75 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Avon Prod	23 1/2	23 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Bank of Am	28 1/2	28 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Bank NY	8 1/2	8 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Bankers	33 1/2	33 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Bank Tst Int	24 1/2	24 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Baxter	21 1/2	21 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Beth Steel	47 1/2	47 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Boston	43 1/2	43 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Boston Cas	47 1/2	47 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Bristol Meyr	43 1/2	43 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
BP	60 1/2	60 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Burroughs	21 1/2	21 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Butt Int	68 1/2	68 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
CBS	162 1/2	161 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
CBS Engy	17 1/2	17 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
CSK Co	29 1/2	29 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Camp Soup	27 1/2	27 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Can Pacifi	18 1/2	18 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Caterpillar	63 1/2	63 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Cent SW	36 1/2	36 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Champion	36 1/2	36 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Chase Man	25 1/2	25 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Chem NY	24 1/2	24 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Chevron	45 1/2	45 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Citigroup	24 1/2	24 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Clark Ed	19 1/2	19 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Coca Cola	38 1/2	38 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Colgate	43 1/2	43 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Columb Gas	32 1/2	32 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Com Int Eng	43 1/2	43 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Cornwell Ed	28 1/2	28 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Cons Eds	43 1/2	43 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Com Data	26 1/2	26 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Coming G	23 1/2	23 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Curtiss W	42 1/2	42 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Dana Corp	53 1/2	53 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Delta Air	119 1/2	119 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Dynalco Eq	119 1/2	119 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Eastman	119 1/2	119 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
Eastman	119 1/2	119 1/2	FT Wachs	37 1/2	38 1/2	Philips	41 1/2	41 1/2
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## UNLISTED SECURITIES

1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1899/00	1898/99	1897/98	1896/97	1895/96	1894/95	1893/94	1892/93	1891/92	1890/91	1889/90	1888/89	1887/88	1886/87	1885/86	1884/85	1883/84	1882/83	1881/82	1880/81	1879/80	1878/79	1877/78	1876/77	1875/76	1874/75	1873/74	1872/73	1871/72	1870/71	1869/70	1868/69	1867/68	1866/67	1865/66	1864/65	1863/64	1862/63	1861/62	1860/61	1859/60	1858/59	1857/58	1856/57	1855/56	1854/55	1853/54	1852/53	1851/52	1850/51	1849/50	1848/49	1847/48	1846/47	1845/46	1844/45	1843/44	1842/43	1841/42	1840/41	1839/40	1838/39	1837/38	1836/37	1835/36	1834/35	1833/34	1832/33	1831/32	1830/31	1829/30	1828/29	1827/28	1826/27	1825/26	1824/25	1823/24	1822/23	1821/22	1820/21	1819/20	1818/19	1817/18	1816/17	1815/16	1814/15	1813/14	1812/13	1811/12	1810/11	1809/10	1808/09	1807/08	1806/07	1805/06	1804/05	1803/04	1802/03	1801/02	1800/01	1799/00	1798/99	1797/98	1796/97	1795/96	1794/95	1793/94	1792/93	1791/92	1790/91	1789/90	1788/89	1787/88	1786/87	1785/86	1784/85	1783/84	1782/83	1781/82	1780/81	1779/80	1778/79	1777/78	1776/77	1775/76	1774/75	1773/74	1772/73	1771/72	1770/71	1769/70	1768/69	1767/68	1766/67	1765/66	1764/65	1763/64	1762/63	1761/62	1760/61	1759/60	1758/59	1757/58	1756/57	1755/56	1754/55	1753/54	1752/53	1751/52	1750/51	1749/50	1748/49	1747/48	1746/47	1745/46	1744/45	1743/44	1742/43	1741/42	1740/41	1739/40	1738/39	1737/38	1736/37	1735/36	1734/35	1733/34	1732/33	1731/32	1730/31	1729/30	1728/29	1727/28	1726/27	1725/26	1724/25	1723/24	1722/23	1721/22	1720/21	1719/20	1718/19	1717/18	1716/17	1715/16	1714/15	1713/14	1712/13	1711/12	1710/11	1709/10	1708/09	1707/08	1706/07	1705/06	1704/05	1703/04	1702/03	1701/02	1700/01	1699/00	1698/99	1697/98	1696/97	1695/96	1694/95	1693/94	1692/93	1691/92	1690/91	1689/90	1688/89	1687/88	1686/87	1685/86	1684/85	1683/84	1682/83	1681/82	1680/81	1679/80	1678/79	1677/78	1676/77	1675/76	1674/75	1673/74	1672/73	1671/72	1670/71	1669/70	1668/69	1667/68	1666/67	1665/66	1664/65	1663/64	1662/63	1661/62	1660/61	1659/60	1658/59	1657/58	1656/57	1655/56	1654/55	1653/54	1652/53	1651/52	1650/51	1649/50	1648/49	1647/48	1646/47	1645/46	1644/45	1643/44	1642/43	1641/42	1640/41	1639/40	1638/39	1637/38	1636/37	1635/36	1634/35	1633/34	1632/33	1631/32	1630/31	1629/30	1628/29	1627/28	1626/27	1625/26	1624/25	1623/24	1622/23	1621/22	1620/21	1619/20	1618/19	1617/18	1616/17	1615/16	1614/15	1613/14	1612/13	1611/12	1610/11	1609/10	1608/09	1607/08	1606/07	1605/06	1604/05	1603/04	1602/03	1601/02	1600/01	1599/00	1598/99	1597/98	1596/97	1595/96	1594/95	1593/94	1592/93	1591/92	1590/91	1589/90	1588/89	1587/88	1586/87	1585/86	1584/85	1583/84	1582/83	1581/82	1580/81	1579/80	1578/79	1577/78	1576/77	1575/76	1574/75	1573/74	1572/73	1571/72	1570/71	1569/70	1568/69	1567/68	1566/67	1565/66	1564/65	1563/64	1562/63	1561/62	1560/61	1559/60	1558/59	1557/58	1556/57	1555/56	1554/55	1553/54	1552/53	1551/52	1550/51	1549/50	1548/49	1547/48	1546/47	1545/46	1544/45	1543/44	1542/43	1541/42	1540/41	1539/40	1538/39	1537/38	1536/37	1535/36	1534/35	1533/34	1532/33	1531/32	1530/31	1529/30	1528/29	1527/28	1526/27	1525/26	1524/25	1523/24	1522/23	1521/22	1520/21	1519/20	1518/19	1517/18	1516/17	1515/16	1514/15	1513/14	1512/13	1511/12	1510/11	1509/10	1508/09	1507/08	1506/07	1505/06	1504/05	1503/04	1502/03	1501/02	1500/01	1499/00	1498/99	1497/98	1496/97	1495/96	1494/95	1493/94	1492/93	1491/92	1490/91	1489/90	1488/89	1487/88	1486/87	1485/86	1484/85	1483/84	1482/83	1481/82	1480/81	1479/80	1478/79	1477/78	1476/77	1475/76	1474/75	1473/74	1472/73	1471/72	1470/71	1469/70	1468/69	1467/68	1466/67	1465/66	1464/65	1463/64	1462/63	1461/62	1460/61	1459/60	1458/59	1457/58	1456/57	1455/56	1454/55	1453/54	1452/53	1451/52	1450/51	1449/50	1448/49	1447/48	1446/47	1445/46	1444/45	1443/44	1442/43	1441/42	1440/41	1439/40	1438/39	1437/38	1436/37	1435/36	1434/35	1433/34	1432/33	1431/32	1430/31	1429/30	1428/29	1427/28	1426/27	1425/26	1424/25	1423/24	1422/23	1421/22	1420/21	1419/20	1418/19	1417/18	1416/17	1415/16	1414/15	1413/14	1412/13	1411/12	1410/11	1409/10	1408/09	1407/08	1406/07	1405/06	1404/05	1403/04	1402/03	1401/02	1400/01	1399/00	1398/99	1397/98	1396/97	1395/96	1394/95	1393/94	1392/93	1391/92	1390/91	1389/90	1388/89	1387/88	1386/87	1385/86	1384/85	1383/84	1382/83	1381/82	1380/81	1379/80	1378/79	1377/78	1376/77	1375/76	1374/75	1373/74	1372/73	1371/72	1370/71	1369/70	1368/69	1367/68	1366/67	1365/66	1364/65	1363/64	1362/63	1361/62	1360/61	1359/60	1358/59	1357/58	1356/57	1355/56	1354/55	1353/54	1352/53	1351/52	1350/51	1349/50	1348/49	1347/48	1346/47	1345/46	1344/45	1343/44	1342/43	1341/42	1340/41	1339/40	1338/39	1337/38	1336/37	1335/36	1334/35	1333/34	1332/33	1331/32	1330/31	1329/30	1328/29	1327/28	1326/27	1325/26	1324/25	1323/24	1322/23	1321/22	1320/21	1319/20	1318/19	1317/18	1316/17	1315/16	1314/15	1313/14	1312/13	1311/12	1310/11	1309/10	1308/09	1307/08	1306/07	1305/06	1304/05	1303/04	1302/03	1301/02	1300/01	1299/00	1298/99	1297/98	1296/97	1295/96	1294/95	1293/94	1292/93	1291/92	1290/91	1289/90	1288/89	1287/88	1286/87	1285/86	1284/85	1283/84	1282/83	1281/82	1280/81	1279/80	1278/79	1277/78	1276/77	1275/76	1274/75	1273/74	1272/73	1271/72	1270/71	1269/70	1268/69	1267/68	1266/67	1265/66	1264/65	1263/64	1262/63	1261/62	1260/61	1259/60	1258/59	1257/58	1256/57	1255/56	1254/55	1253/54	1252/53	1251/52	1250/51	1249/50	1248/49	1247/48	1246/47	1245/46	1244/45	1243/44	1242/43	1241/42	1240/41	1239/40	1238/39	1237/38	1236/37	1235/36	1234/35	1233/34	1232/33	1231/32	1230/31	1229/30	1228/29	1227/28	1226/27	1225/26	1224/25	1223/24	1222/23	1221/22	1220/21	1219/20	1218/19	1217/18	1216/17	1215/16	1214/15	1213/14	1212/13	1211/12	1210/11	1209/10	1208/09	1207/08	1206/07	1205/06	1204/05	1203/04	1202/03	1201/02	1200/01	1199/00	1198/99	1197/98	1196/97	1195/96	1194/95	1193/94	1192/93	1191/92	1190/91	1189/90	1188/89	1187/88	1186/87	1185/86	1184/85	1183/84	1182/83	1181/82	1180/81	1179/80	1178/79	1177/78	1176/77	1175/76	1174/75	1173/74	1172/73	1171/72	1170/71	1169/70	1168/69	1167/68	1166/67	1165/66	1164/65	1163/64	1162/63	1161/62	1160/61	1159/60	1158/59	1157/58	1156/57	1155/56	1154/55	1153/54	1152/53	1151/52	1150/51	1149/50	1148/49	1147/48	1146/47	1145/46	1144/45	1143/44	1142/43	1141/42	1140/41	1139/40	1138/39	1137/38	1136/37	1135/36	1134/35	1133/34	1132/33	1131/32	1130/31	1129/30	1128/29	1127/28	1126/27	1125/26	1124/25	1123/24	1122/23	1121/22	1120/21	1119/20	1118/19	1117/18	1116/17	1115/16	1114/15	1113/14	1112/13	1111/12	1110/11	1109/10	1108/09	1107/08	1106/07	1105/06	1104/05	1103/04	1102/03	1101/02	1100/01	1099/00	1098/99	1097/98	1096/97	1095/96	1094/95	1093/94	1092/93	1091/92	1090/91	1089/90	1088/89	1087/88	1086/87	1085/86	1084/85	1083/84	1082/83	1081/82	1080/81	1079/80	1078/79	1077/78	1076/77	1075/76	1074/75	1073/74	1072/73	1071/72	1070/71	1069/70	1068/69	1067/68	1066/67	1065/66	1064/65	1063/64	1062/63	1061/62	1060/61	1059/60	1058/59	1057/58	1056/57	1055/56	1054/55	1053/54	1052/53	1051/52	1050/51	1049/50	1048/49	1047/48	1046/47	1045/46	1044/45	1043/44	1042/43	1041/42	1040/41	1039/40	1038/39	1037/38	1036/37	1035/36	1034/35	1033/34	1032/33	1031/32	1030/31	1029/30	1028/29	1027/28	1026/27	1025/26	1024/25	1023/24	1022/23	1021/22	1020/21	1019/20	1018/19	1017/18	1016/17	1015/16	1014/15	1013/14	1012/13	1011/12	1010/11	1009/10	1008/09	1007/08	1006/07	1005/06	1004/05	1003/04	1002/03	1001/02	1000/01	999/00	998/99	997/98	996/97	995/96	994/95	993/94	992/93	991/92	990/91	989/90	988/89	987/88	986/87	985/86	984/85	983/84	982/83	981/82	980/81	979/80	978/79	977/78	976/77	975/76	974/75	973/74	972/73	971/72	970/71	969/70	968/69	967/68	966/67	965/66	964/65	963/64	962/63	961/62	960/61	959/60	958/59	957/58	956/57	955/56	954/55	953/54	952/53	951/52	950/51	949/50	948/49	947/48	946/47	945/46	944/45	943/44	942/43	941/42	940/41	939/40	938/39	937/38	936/37	935/36	934/35	933/34	932/33	931/32	930/31	929/30	928/29	927/28	926/27	925/26	924/25	923/24	922/23	921/22	920/21	919/20	918/19	917/18	916/17	915/16	914/15	913/14	912/13	911/12	910/11	909/10	908/09	907/08	906/07	905/06	904/05	903/04	902/03	901/02	900/01	899/00	898/99	897/98	896/97	895/96	894/95	893/94	892/93	891/92	890/91	889/90	888/89	887/88
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## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				OTHER STERLING RATES	
Market rates for March 14					
	Rate	Close	1 month	3 month	
New York	1.9475-1.9480	1.9475-1.9485	0.92-0.92v	0.95-0.95v	Argentina austral*
London	2.6377-2.6389	2.6377-2.6398	0.18c-0.18d	0.31-0.08d	Australia dollar
Amsterdam	3.4587-3.4594	3.4589-3.4595	13-14 1/2c	44-43 1/2c	Bahian dollar
Brussels	23.68-24.64				Brazil cruzeiro
Frankfurt	11.71-11.72	11.71-11.71	7-7 1/2c	11-11 1/2c	Cyprus pound
Hong Kong	1.4297-1.4301	1.4299-1.4308	9-13c	22-30c	Denmark kroner
India	48.85-48.92	48.85-48.91	14-14 1/2c	14-14 1/2c	Finland markka
Japan	1.0891-1.0904	1.0893-1.0901	14-14 1/2c	14-14 1/2c	French franc
Madrid	20.36-20.37	20.36-20.36	32-33c	93-125c	German DM
Mexico	2276.43-2284.25	2276.43-2279.51	1-1c	5-7 1/2c	Hong Kong dollar
Paris	10.4715-10.4730	10.4715-10.4730	1-1 1/2c	2-1/2c	Indian rupee
Stockholm	10.9420-10.9706	10.9470-10.9514	1-1 1/2c	1-1 1/2c	Malaysia dollar
Tokyo	21.64-21.69	21.64-21.69	1-1 1/2c	2-1/2c	Manila peso
Zurich	2.5195-2.5243	2.5372-2.5405	1-1 1/2c	4-4 1/2c	Mexico peso
					Netherlands guilder
					New Zealand dollar
					Philippine peso
					Saudi Arabia riyal
					Singapore dollar
					S. Africa rand (R)
					S. Africa rand (C)
					S. Africa rand (F)
					S. Africa rand (G)
					S. Africa rand (H)
					S. Africa rand (I)
					S. Africa rand (J)
					S. Africa rand (K)
					S. Africa rand (L)
					S. Africa rand (M)
					S. Africa rand (N)
					S. Africa rand (O)
					S. Africa rand (P)
					S. Africa rand (Q)
					S. Africa rand (R)
					S. Africa rand (S)
					S. Africa rand (T)
					S. Africa rand (U)
					S. Africa rand (V)
					S. Africa rand (W)
					S. Africa rand (X)
					S. Africa rand (Y)
					S. Africa rand (Z)
					S. Africa rand (AA)
					S. Africa rand (AB)
					S. Africa rand (AC)
					S. Africa rand (AD)
					S. Africa rand (AE)
					S. Africa rand (AF)
					S. Africa rand (AG)
					S. Africa rand (AH)
					S. Africa rand (AI)
					S. Africa rand (AJ)
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					S. Africa rand (AL)
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					S. Africa rand (AN)
					S. Africa rand (AO)
					S. Africa rand (AP)
					S. Africa rand (AQ)
					S. Africa rand (AR)
					S. Africa rand (AS)
					S. Africa rand (AT)
					S. Africa rand (AU)
					S. Africa rand (AV)
					S. Africa rand (AW)
					S. Africa rand (AX)
					S. Africa rand (AY)
					S. Africa rand (AZ)
					S. Africa rand (BA)
					S. Africa rand (BB)
					S. Africa rand (BC)
					S. Africa rand (BD)
					S. Africa rand (BE)
					S. Africa rand (BF)
					S. Africa rand (BG)
					S. Africa rand (BH)
					S. Africa rand (BI)
					S. Africa rand (BJ)

## DOLLAR SPOT RATE

Ireland	1,5120-1,6135	Denmark	6,3420-6,3470	Italy	1,2285-1,2300
Singapore	2,0115-2,0125	W Germany	1,6597-1,6604	Belgium (Com)	34,59-34,74
Malaysia	2,5590-2,5515	Switzerland	1,3932-1,3932	Hong Kong	7,7995-7,8000
Australia	1,3650-1,3700	Netherlands	1,8545-1,8552	Portugal	135,80-136,20
Spain	2,5770-2,5800	France	1,6280-1,6284	Spain	111,50-111,60
Sweden	5,9305-5,9380	Japan	126,80-126,90	Austria	1,15-1,16
Norway	6,5000-6,5050			Finland	1,15-1,16

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEV and ECU

## MO

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Standard CDE (%)      3 mth: 8<sup>21</sup>±8%      6 mth: 9-8%  
1 mth: 8<sup>21</sup>±8%  
12 mth: 8<sup>21</sup>±8%

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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	Per coin (Ex VAT)
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Kruggerand: \$439.75-442.75	(232.50-236.50)
Mexico: \$454.25-459.25	(245.50-248.50)
W.T. (Tad): \$454.25-459.25	(245.50-248.50)
American Eagle: \$454.25-459.25	(245.50-248.50)
New Sovereign: \$103.75-104.75	(55.00-56.75)
Old Sovereign: \$103.75-105.00	(55.00-57.00)
Platinum: \$452.75	(235.00)
Palladium: \$122.50	(55.00)

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
<b>One Month Eurodollar</b>	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	<b>US Treasury Bond</b>	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jan 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jan 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Feb 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Feb 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Mar 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Mar 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Apr 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Apr 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
May 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	May 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jun 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jun 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jul 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jul 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Aug 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Aug 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Sep 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Sep 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Oct 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Oct 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Nov 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Nov 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Dec 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Dec 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
<b>Three Month Eurodollar</b>	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	<b>FTSE 100</b>	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jan 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jan 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Feb 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Feb 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Mar 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Mar 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Apr 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Apr 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
May 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	May 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jun 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jun 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jul 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Jul 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Aug 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Aug 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Sep 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Sep 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Oct 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Oct 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Nov 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Nov 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Dec 91	91.00	91.00	90.95	90.95	3498	Dec 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
<b>Japanese Gov Bond</b>	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	<b>Japanese Gov Bond</b>	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jan 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Jan 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Feb 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Feb 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Mar 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Mar 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Apr 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Apr 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
May 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	May 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jun 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Jun 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Jul 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Jul 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Aug 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Aug 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Sep 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Sep 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Oct 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Oct 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Nov 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Nov 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117
Dec 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	121.95	117	Dec 91	122.00	122.00	121.95	117

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## TECHNOLOGY

## Nature needs this machine

It looks like something from the mind of Heath Robinson, but it could save some rare species

By Nick Nuttall

In days of dwindling budgets and research councils, cost-cutting scientists with a sense of humour are rare species indeed. Dr Harry Moore is an exception.

But even the good-natured pioneering head of London Zoo's gamete research has an extra special gruff reserved for a Heath Robinson-type contraption that perches unassumingly on a bench-top at the zoo's Nuffield Laboratories in London's Regents Park.

"You wouldn't believe it was effective to look at it but it works very well. We are now looking at ways to build it commercially," he said, gesturing at a polystyrene chamber complete with lowering platform powered by a simple linear motor.

The object of his amusement — developed by Moore and co-worker Dr Bill Holt — is a computer-controlled system for freezing animals' sperm and a technologically linchpin in zoo plans to create a freezer depot or fauna bank of species threatened with extinction.

Its incongruous appearance masks five years of painstaking research which has revealed how the rate and temperature different species' sperm are exposed to play a crucial role in their fertility after thawing.

And as Dr Moore points out, it is all very well to create a fauna bank but a zoologist has got to be sure when the precious cargo of sperm and egg meet either during artificial insemination or in a laboratory dish, that the chances of conception are high

— five, 50 or 500 years from now.

With funding from the Medical and Agricultural Research Councils the zoo has so far frozen giant panda, gorilla and chimpanzee sperm. However, the freezing machine is now being used to freeze a wider range of species male sex cells, including the threatened Black Buck — an Asian antelope native to Pakistan — and birds such as the peregrine falcon and merlin.

Sperm is collected either by massage or under sedation and placed in tiny plastic vials containing 250 microlitres. These are then put on the machine's platform and the lower polystyrene chamber filled with liquid nitrogen at minus 196 degrees C.

A tailor-made cooling programme — unique for each species — is then typed into the unit's computer and the stage moves into the nitrogen vapour imperceptibly dancing in the gas to find the right temperature.

"In the case of the black buck the rate is seven degrees a minute down to minus 70. Then it is plunged into the liquid nitrogen before being placed in storage," explained Dr Moore.

A cryo microscope, computer-controlled and fed with its own supply of liquid nitrogen, has been developed by Cell Systems of Cambridge which allows the scientists to watch the freezing process and monitor the sperm's health.

However, despite being able to do controlled cooling in minutes when previously it had taken days, some animal sperm is still proving difficult

to freeze especially the big cats. Dr Moore thinks this may have more to do with the preservative or cryogenic fluids sperm are suspended in and which are also being developed at the zoo than flawed computerized freezing technology.

"I suppose you can say that in many ways we've cracked the practicalities but why they work fundamentally we still have to work out," said Dr Moore, who with Dr Holt has developed ways of studying chilled sperm at leisure by linking up a VCR to the electron microscope.

Over the next few months London Zoo will be having its annual report around, hoping to persuade conservation-minded industrialists and businessmen to back their fauna bank.

Animals, like the North African black rhino, whose populations have dwindled to between 30 and 100 individuals, are likely to be some of the first species to have their gametes take up residence in Regent's Park. And, as Harry Moore points out, other pioneering work being carried out by the zoo's geneticists aimed at computer predicting an individual animal's level of genetic variation is also going to be crucial.

He also stresses the need for fail-safe technology to ensure a technical mishap doesn't lead to the catastrophic thawing out of an extinct animal's sex cells. But even though there may be debate about which system to choose, the timing of the zoo's technological breakthroughs which are making the fauna banks feasible is not in dispute.



Saving the animals? Dr Harry Moore, left, and Dr Bill Holt, with their semen-freezing unit at London Zoo

## Homes go on-line for security and comfort

From Joseph Giovanni in New York

Forget about waiting in your dressing gown for the bath to fill or padding around at night to lock the doors and turn off the lights. Think instead about calling up your appliances — the refrigerator, the alarm — from the car phone as you commute home from work.

The refrigerator defrosts a pie and tells the oven to start the roast; you signal the microwave oven to heat the soufflé and 103-degree water fills the bathtub. As you drive under the automatic garage door, the lights switch on, the heat fires up, the security system turns off and on comes the compact disc.

The house of the not-too-

distant future is electronic, and you will be able to play it as you would a fugue. About a dozen companies in Europe, Japan and the US are now preparing whole-house automation systems for both new and existing houses. The new levels of convenience, security and time-and-energy savings they provide promise to inspire a vast market and create a whole industry.

Home automation can be frivolous, practical, even magical, and its appeal is wide: handicapped people, vacation-home owners, people who work at home, people who have large houses, the elderly and the legions of the just plain gadget-happy are all potential customers.

Patrick Bord, president of

EGIS, a French consulting concern, said: "I don't see a large short-term market, but I see a huge effort with so many people and such large players that I'd be surprised if home automation doesn't take off in two or three years." EGIS monitors Japanese technology, and in doing so has charted the development of home automation. Several large Japanese companies are ready to market systems in the US. Mitsubishi is testing a device that will be marketed this year, and Fujitsu's Home Automation System is already available. By the end of the year, about a dozen Japanese whole-house automation products will be on the market, Bord said.

To meet the threat of for-

eign competition, a consortium of about 40 American manufacturers of appliances and electronic components has developed the Smart House Project with the National Association of Home Builders.

A model house sponsored by the project will be equipped with a revolutionary wiring system that combines electricity and electronics in a single cable. The cable will be compatible with "smart" appliances that have microchips; the appliances will be able to "talk" to each other and to the house within a fully integrated system.

A dishwasher will be able to ask the water heater for a supply of water at a certain

temperature, and a sensor will be able to set off an alarm if a baby has stopped breathing. The result will be a home that thinks, remembers and almost cares, thanks to its conversion from an electro-mechanical to a solid-state system.

Already, many office buildings are "intelligent," equipped with built-in electronic systems that regulate the environment, security and lighting.

There are three approaches to home automation: individual products that plug into homes; products that require some new wiring, and the complete rewiring of the house for a fully integrated system.

Associated Press

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## Opening new windows on shares

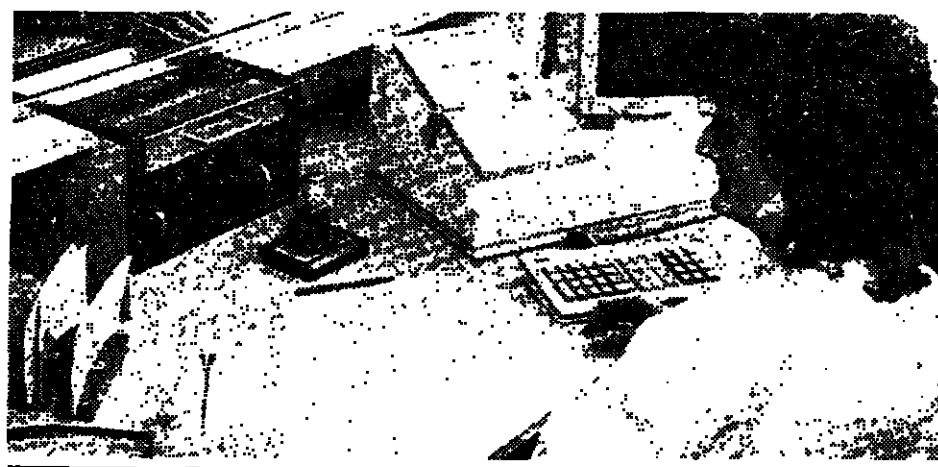
A new shares-information service for the private investor has been launched by Port Data Company, a supplier of financial-information services. Called Advantage, it gives access to local call rates via a PC or videotex terminal to the prices of securities quoted on the main European stock exchanges, as well as big North American and Far Eastern companies.

Advantage also provides information on foreign exchange, European options and futures exchanges and worldwide financial news.

The intention is to give the modest market player — those of them still interested since October's stock-market crash — the same depth and range of information available to the city professional at a fraction of the cost.

If a user already has an IBM-compatible PC, all that is needed to use Advantage is a modem and videotex software costing less than £200.

The service can also be accessed via a



conventional videotex terminal — available on sale or lease. Alternatively a conventional domestic TV set can be used with a £199 adaptor from Port.

The Advantage service is expected to open new high-street "windows" to financial markets for the smaller investor. Port Data is negotiating with clearing banks and building societies to make the service available over their existing networks to branch customers. This would mean bank or building society

customers would be able to access the Advantage service for a modest charge when they visit their branch to cash cheques or make deposits. Videotex terminals would be installed at selected branches.

With the growth industry that is computer fraud becoming even more prevalent, a London firm of insurance brokers has developed a policy to insure against such fraud.

Fenchurch's cash management systems policy, as it is called, basically provides cover

against fraudulent electronic communication and fraudulent modification, both forms of theft from a bank account by electronic debiting.

A Fenchurch official said that to the best of the firm's knowledge, the new policy, available from Lloyd's, is the only cover for this risk. He added: "The enormity of potential loss involving a computer system goes beyond the standard of every crime losses in today's society. The computer-oriented crime has no upper limit."

## A new ethic for the test-tube sciences

An international group of experts, including scientists, doctors and lawyers, is to try to draft rules covering the newest technology that made genetic engineering, test-tube fertilization and organ transplants possible.

The specialists will be part of an institute being set up as the result of an international conference called in November to discuss the moral, ethical and legal implications of scientific research. The founders of the institute want it eventually to recommend guidelines or even suggest laws for the European Community governing the latest scientific research.

The institute is being formed just as official Community policy, in which it aims to play a part, is about to be considered by the European Parliament. Next month its legal affairs and citizens' rights committee will discuss reports on MEPs' proposals for laws against the use of live human embryos for commercial purposes and scientific experiments, including cloning and the crossing of humans with other species.

To become law, proposals in the reports would have to be adopted by the European Commission and the Council of Ministers.

The November conference, called *Omnia Homini* — Latin for Everything for Mankind — was held at L'Aquila, about 60 miles north-east of Rome, by several Italian local authorities and academic bodies and the International Union of Magistrates. It also carried the endorsement of the European Parliament.

Speakers emphasized that advances in medical science, especially in genetic engineering, had become so rapid that they had outgrown the laws

## Brian Collett reports on new moves for experts to develop greater responsibility

and ethics that regulate research.

The subject of genetic experiments on human embryos provoked some particularly topical argument. Father Elio Sgreccia, director of bioethics at the Catholic Sacred Heart University in Rome, opposed any scientific experiments on human embryos, believing that an individual human life is created at the moment of fertilization and that that life is sacred.

Dr Berndt Kessler, chairman of the Swedish health ministry's ethics committee, considered that experiments on human embryos should be permitted during their first three weeks of existence.

In 1984 the Warnock Report had recommended to the British Government that such scientific research during an embryo's first two weeks should be made legal. Three years later and 12 days after the L'Aquila conference, a government White Paper proposed a two-week limit, during which scientists in Britain should be allowed to carry out strictly licensed live embryo research aimed at improving methods of diagnosis, treatment and fertility control.

The White Paper says: "Those who favour the continuation of embryo research argue that it offers very important benefits, for example, in the improvement of infertility treatment itself and in detecting genetic disorders." MPs, however, will be given a free vote on the issue and could even decide to ban all scientific research on embryos.

At the L'Aquila conference senior delegates were unable to produce a unanimous statement of policy on the new issues raised by scientific research. Instead they made a statement of intention, part of which read: "The totally new and rapidly developing scientific problems make scientists face immense responsibilities, involving the life of the individual and the essence itself of human life."

"These problems cannot be solved either individually by the conscience of each single scientist, or on the basis of utilitarian considerations, or following the principle of 'research with no aim and no rules'."

The organizers of the conference have now decided to set up the international institute at L'Aquila to continue studying the problems. The institute will be interdisciplinary, bringing together scientists, lawyers and experts in bio-ethics.

It will establish foundations for specialist investigations and will eventually call more international conferences from time to time to review findings.

The director of the institute is Professor Carlo Casciani, a liver and kidney transplant surgeon, who heads the medical faculty at Rome's Second University and sat on the organizing committee of the L'Aquila conference.

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## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY in The Post Office

Official 50



## TECHNOLOGY

## Where the consultants find their expert staff

## JOBS SCENE

By Caroline Berman

Being well-dressed and articulate is as important as having technical expertise if you want to become a management consultant. But according to management consultants, the combination is difficult to find.

The demand for management consultants in the information-technology field is growing faster than any other field. In London about half the total number of Touche Ross's management consultants are in IT. The rest are accountants, marketing economists, engineers, health-care, manufacturing or retail specialists.

Arthur Anderson took on 175 new graduates this year as IT consultant trainees, and is also looking for about 70 experienced people to move into management consultancy. Richard Bulgin, Touche Ross's principle consultant, described the type of recruits he was seeking. "We need people with a good education who are smart, well-turned-out, able to communicate orally and in writing, with a blend of technical skills and business awareness," he said.

"They will be dealing at a high level with senior people so they must be credible at



that level. We look for a combination of ability, technical skill and personality. We can often find one but not all together.

"They must be able to project, well, without being flashy and must appear genuine. They must also be quick-witted.

A lot of people have to be seen before anyone suitable can be selected. Mr Bulgin said: "I normally find one person out of every eight I interview - and these are all people who look appropriate on paper."

Touche Ross has a mix of technical specialists and general commercial applications, so it is not looking for skills in

any particular area. The company pays its management consultants between £20,000 and £40,000 plus car.

Once you're in the job, about two-thirds of your time will be spent on chargeable assignments for clients. The assignments vary from two weeks to six months, working on your own, or as part of a team. The rest of the time is spent in being trained.

A management consultant may be doing strategy studies; going into a company, looking at their business plans over the next two or three years, and working out how IT could be applied to solve the problems and what new hardware and software is required.

Arthur Anderson has a huge university recruitment scheme, and prospective management consultants can come from any discipline. They may have degrees in anything from computer science to Japanese or music. Liz Hopkins, recruitment manager at Arthur Anderson said: "We look for sharp, intellect, good A-levels and a good degree."

The graduate are paid £14,000, plus £2,000 overtime. Arthur Anderson had 4,000 applications for the 175 places as graduate trainees.

Arthur Anderson gives these graduates technical training in programming, systems design and analysis, as well as training in business and financial skills.

Ms Hopkins said: "We also take on experienced recruits. They come from a variety of technical backgrounds.

"We like people from blue-chip companies, who have gained a level of competence and responsibility. We look for general systems design and analysis."

But she admitted it was difficult to find such people. This year it wants 70. They must have at least two years' work experience. To come in as a manager, they must have six or seven years' work experience.

## How Jean-Louis intends to become Monsieur IBM

## PERSPECTIVE

By Richard Sarson

Jean-Louis Bouchard owns a string of race-horses and is reputedly among the 20 richest men in France. He has done this in 13 years by leasing and maintaining computers made by other people, mostly IBM. Though his company, Econocom, is registered in the Netherlands and gets 87 per cent of its revenue from Europe, he has moved to New York, because he wants to make Econocom a world-class company.

He reckons you cannot do that in the computer industry without the American operation being a main part of your company. It contributes only 12.5 per cent to his \$499 million worldwide revenue, which is not enough.

He is no stranger to the US because his father was attached to the French Embassy in Washington, when Jean-Louis was a boy. Later, he started his career in IBM, and was posted to the US for a time.

After leaving IBM, he formed ECS, a computer-leasing company, in France, with finance from Société Générale, but by 1981 got itchy feet, and set up his own leasing companies in other European countries, including Britain.

In 1985, he won control of Econocom of Memphis Tennessee, and severed his connection with ECS. From then on, he was a Frenchman controlling a company which operates in 14 countries except his own. On April 1, he starts up again in France.

He now claims to have the only truly international computer-leasing company. Even the largest leasing company in the



6 The only truly international computer leasing company 9

Jean-Louis Bouchard

world, Comdisco, operates 80 per cent in the US, with only nominal operations elsewhere. Atlantic, the late John Poulson's company, is primarily UK-based. Econocom, on the other hand, gets most of its revenue from West Germany, with Italy and Belgium following closely behind. The UK revenue is less than that in Switzerland. This is because Jean-Louis Bouchard believes that the UK leasing market became over-competitive in the last few years, with many

companies writing loss-making leases. The result has been the failure of leasing companies, such as IBL.

He believes there will be more failures, and then the UK will become a sounder proposition for sensible leasing rates. But he will not try to increase his UK operation until he has evidence that the UK leasing market has returned to its commercial senses. He is encouraged in pursuing this UK policy, because Comdisco, the most successful leasing company in the world, has also avoided "mixing it" in the loss-making UK market.

In fact, he appears to be disenchanted with leasing as a whole. His balance sheet explains this. In 1986 he earned only \$18.2 million on a revenue of nearly \$500 million. So, with gallic logic, he is changing Econocom from a leasing company to a service company.

Computer leasing has had a bumpy ride over the last decade, with fierce competition from other leasing companies and IBM. Therefore, Jean-Louis goes back to his roots in IBM, where he was taught that the most important thing in life was customer service.

He is building up Econocom's service side, with maintenance, consultancy, system integration playing the lead roles. Financing will only be an additional service. He plans to be "the IBM of the next century", with a worldwide consultancy.

The essential selling point will be that he will not be tied to a particular supplier's hardware or software. He will be recommending what is the best for the customer.

## New supercomputer range

NCR will announce today at the Hannover Fair and in New York a new range of four super-minicomputers, the System 10000, doubling the power of its previous I-Series range and providing new opportunities for the 33,000 world-wide users of the I-Series, NCR's main money-spinner, writes Richard Sarson.

NCR claim it to be an open system, connectable to other firms' machines through OSI, the international standard for interconnection. It also links to IBM machines through IBM's System Network Architecture (SNA). But, it is not

fully open, as it runs on NCR's proprietary operating system, ITX, rather than one of the portable operating systems, like Unix. It has to use the older operating system, so that the I-series customers will not have to rewrite their programs.

Also, the \$10000 is designed for networks of 400 or more terminals, with high transaction rates, for which Unix is not suitable.

NCR has tried to make up for this lack of openness in the operating system by not opting for a proprietary database. Instead they have chosen Oracle, the leading independent

relational database, which works with most other computers - including Unix machines.

Oracle itself uses a standard query language called SQL, used by most relational databases, for creating and querying information held on the database.

NCR provides what it calls a "seamless and transparent" link from the System 10000 to personal computers themselves, so that professional staff working on their own applications on PCs can also call up information from the database.

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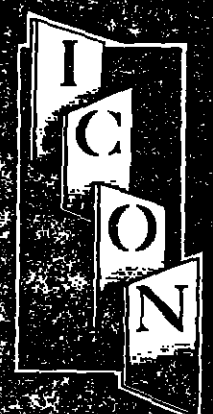
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## TECHNOLOGY

## IT for the wary executive

Richard Sarson looks at systems that take the fear out of information technology for business leaders

The National Health Service stands accused of not knowing where it spends its money. Though the information must be stored somewhere on its many computers, there is no way of getting it out in a digestible enough form for the Government to make sensible choices.

The same is true of many companies, but in fact the tools to present the information have been around for some years, although often they do not come cheap.

The tools are variously called executive information systems (EIS), boardroom systems or decision conferencing. Some are designed for the director's desk and some, with back-projection screens, for formal meetings of a board or for all-day trouble-shooting sessions.

Because companies assume that the higher the job title, the more shy of keyboards the people are, such systems must be very easy to use, preferably with a touch-screen or a mouse, self-explanatory menus and graphs and charts rather than rows of numbers.

Professor Sir Douglas Hague, chairman of Meta-



Hague: Senior management systems should show only what is relevant

praxis, points out, "that very few computer people have been chief executive officers, and understand their needs and pressures."

Either they get over-loaded with paper and figures or are fobbed off with summaries. These often use the common denominator of money and can often conceal much that is of importance in production, marketing, people and competitors.

The trick of such senior management systems is to bring up on the screen only what is relevant. And it must be able to do it fast — seven seconds is the maximum a director is prepared to wait, according to one company's research.

The systems must also offer the ability to "drill down" into underlying data and present things in detail. Most chief executives, it is said, would be happy with a set of 1000 screens, residing on a personal computer, updated monthly, for use immediately before and during the monthly board meeting.

But Sir Douglas believes it is dangerous to link the boardroom system too closely to the normal databases of an organization because it is important for political reasons, for a board's system to be independent of the firm's data-processing manager.

He has found that many such systems in the US suffer from being on-line to companies' databases, and hence "owned" by the computer department.

However other suppliers, for example Thorn EMI, which has recently started marketing the American Pilot system, believe it is necessary to be on-line to get more up-



Axiom's experimental "electronic round table" for a European industrialists' summit of delegates in London

information from ad-hoc inquiries.

Ian McNaught Davis, vice-president of Comshare, markets a system called Commander, and enjoys showing visitors how to call up by satellite his US parent-company's figures from a computer in Michigan, and present them on the screen in graphs decided by him on the spur of the moment.

These systems must also be able to bring down external information about competitors or market statistics, such as Dow Jones, as directors should be as much interested in the outside and future as the inside and now.

Some people believe that just displaying the facts is not enough. David O'Brien, managing director of Rank Xerox UK, is developing artificial intelligence tools to help directors in the very complex choices large firms may have to make.

Similarly Dr Larry Phillips, head of the Decision Analysis

Unit of the London School of Economics claims that finding out that a subsidiary is having problems with the sales of a particular product is only the first step.

The directors have then to choose between courses of action with complex consequences. They have to look into the uncertainties of the future, where the past data is of little use. Instead Dr Phillips is developing techniques to model the effects of different choices, using imprecise data — a modern equivalent of the crystal ball.

This, he calls Decision Conferencing and is based on ICL's intelligent boardroom, known as the Pod.

Dr Phillips originally dismissed the Pod as a technical gimmick, until he held a meeting in it, and realized that making decisions and drawing up action plans became much easier if the decision makers are locked together in a room, where they can use any mix of slides, computer screens,

overhead projectors and view-data.

Intelligent boardrooms cater for small groups, probably not above 12 people.

Last month a company called Axiom provided an experimental "electronic round table" for a European industrialists' summit of about 150 delegates in a London conference centre. In discussions, any delegate could bring up EEC statistics for an industry on one of 16 screens, and decisions by one group were fed into a computer for circulation to the others.

But with prices still high, sales are slow. PC-based systems can cost about £25,000 and boardroom systems from £35,000 up to £200,000 with every imaginable extra.

The several suppliers of these systems have different specialties. Metapris, for example, has a PC-based system, which it has supplied to 45 organizations in the last three years.

## PROFILE

## Idea that led to £4m company

By Geof Wheelwright

Paul Wright, founder and managing director of Blyth Software, did not imagine life would turn out at all the way it has.

When he left South-East Asia in the late-1970s after finishing a stint there as a Voluntary Services Overseas worker, he never dreamt he would establish a company that has become a successful seller of software for the Apple Macintosh and won a Design Council award for excellence.

He did, however, arrive back in Britain with an idea gleaned from brief encounters with microcomputer technology in the Far East, Australia and New Zealand. He said: "It would be grand to imagine that we planned to be such an international company, but a lot of what happened is an accident."

"Sending a card stack off to mainframe did not appeal and it seemed like micros were a good idea."

Soon after, Mr Wright was asked to help his brother develop an application for the man's business. He got to grips with first the Commodore Pet, then the Apple II computer.

With some Apple experience under his belt, Mr Wright decided the best way to understand the technology was to sell it to other people. "So I got a desk and two Apple machines and became an Apple dealer," he said.

That was in 1979, when decent business software for Apple computers was scarce. As he started selling computers, he became increasingly aware that the greatest limitations to selling these machines was that no one could provide the kinds of applications software needed to make the most of the technology, particularly in databases.

"What quickly became obvious was that people would

not just flock to us to buy computers," he explained. "So we started advertising as an Apple dealer, then hired a programmer."

In 1981, Blyth Computers — named after the River Blyth which ran through the Suffolk village of Wenhamston where the company had its first office — released its first piece of software, a database called Omnis, largely as an aid to selling computer hardware.

For the next two years the company continued to sell computers while adding to its range of software.

"By 1983, we decided that the hardware business in Sof-



Paul Wright: A desk, two Apples and I was a dealer

folk was tough," said Mr Wright. "There were lots of trees, but not so many people and we had to travel vast distances to get to customers. So we decided to concentrate on software."

In the Macintosh world, the rest is history. The company became one of the first to release a proper database system for the Macintosh and has since moved into the IBM market.

"We have made mistakes," he admitted. "Lackily, we've always been able to make enough money in the company to cover the mistakes." Blyth now has a £4 million annual turnover. Last October it raised \$7 million on the New York stock market.

## EVENTS

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■ Electron & BBC Micro Show, Friday to Sunday, UMIST, Manchester (0625 878888)

■ Cadcam 88, March 22-24, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (01-608 1161)

■ Visit Recruitment Fair, March 25-26, Cumberland Hotel, London, (01-262 1234)

■ Computer Recruitment Fair, March 25-26, Rainbow Rooms, London (0491 681010)

■ Computers in Retailing, March 29-31, Metropole Hotel, Brighton (01-834 1717)

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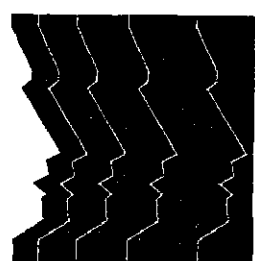
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## TECHNOLOGY

## Draw a cost-saving picture

By Frank Brown

A picture is worth a thousand words they say. London's City University, however, has gone one further and shown that two pictures can save thousands of pounds.

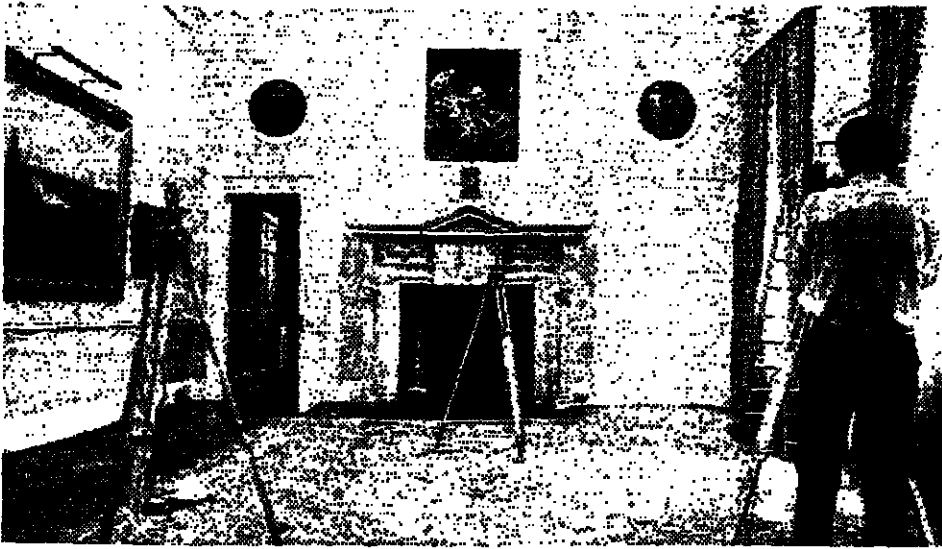
The university's civil engineering department has pioneered a technique called computer-controlled analytical photogrammetry, where two photographs showing different views of the same subject can be used to create a detailed three-dimensional computer graphics model of it.

The model is accurate to within a few millimetres, and is produced without the need to make direct measurements, no matter how complex or intricate the subject may be. Artefacts, buildings, and terrain, as well as people, animals and other creatures, can all be accurately modelled for detailed dimensional analysis.

For example, body panel pressings for the automotive industry can be accurately measured, and the deformation of civil engineering structures such as dams and bridges, monitored and analysed.

The technique is now being offered as a commercial service by the department through its new engineering programme unit, a business initiative inaugurated by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Greville Spratt.

The department has provided analytical photogrammetry services for external clients for more than 10 years.



Modern technology solving 17th century problems at Mansion House

The new unit will boost the university's computer-based technique using special software developed by the department, and a new £250,000 computerized photogrammetry system — the first of its kind in commercial use in Britain.

The Intergraph Intermap Analytic (IMA) workstation, as the new system is called, produces a 3D image from the two photographs which is then manually digitized to help create the computer model.

One of the first projects undertaken by the new unit has been to produce a computer model of a highly ornate room in the Mansion House for the Corporation of London. The corporation wants to refurbish this historic 17th century building, but has no architectural drawings of it because none were made.

To tackle the problem, the Corporation originally commissioned a pilot project in which a team of experts from another organization were engaged manually to survey and measure up the elegant north drawing room of the Lord Mayor's traditional residence. The complexity of the task proved too much for conventional methods however, and the team gave up after a week.

The university's photogrammetry team were then called in to undertake the project and, using the new technique, completed the task in five days. Surveying and photographing the seven by eight by six metres-high room took two and a half hours. The rest of the time was spent digitizing the 3D images pro-

duced on the IMA workstation to produce the computer model.

The resultant model not only enabled detailed accurate drawings of any aspect or part of the room, and its many ornate carvings to be produced, but also revealed that the floor has a 35 millimetre sag in it.

Although traditional architectural drawings can be quickly produced from the model, the Corporation does not need to, according to Michael Cooper the new unit's director. "All the refurbishment planning can be done on computer terminals, so that only drawings necessary to carry out individual jobs need to be produced," he says.

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You will be required to produce budget estimates, schedules of rates, bills of quantities, valuations and final accounts, in accordance with the architects' programme of works. He/she will also provide cost advice, provide financial programming advice, analyse tenders, price architects' instructions, check consultants' fee accounts and liaise with consultants.

We would prefer full corporate membership of the RICS but a graduate Quantity Surveyor seeking T.P.C. experience would be considered.

Daventry is an expanding town at the heart of an attractive rural district enjoying easy access to major communication routes. The Council is a small but commercially orientated authority with a capital programme of £6m per annum with exciting prospects for future town expansion. Our offices are located in new, purpose built accommodation, (which includes a staff dining room) and are in easy walking distance of the town centre.

In addition to salary, we offer a package which includes a flexible working hours scheme (currently being piloted), generous assistance with relocation expenses and 100% removal expenses.

If you are interested, application forms and job descriptions are available from Personnel and Management Services Officer by telephoning (0327) 71100 extension 241. The closing date is 22nd March 1988.



**Daventry**  
District Council

HELP US HELP  
CHILDREN WITH  
CANCER

APPEAL MANAGER sought by Wessex Cancer Trust to run a £0.5m campaign in support of the Wessex Cancer Children's Unit at Southampton General Hospital.

Mature Person with relevant experience in either press and public relations, marketing or fundraising, able to work on own initiative and to communicate with people from all walks of life.

This will be a 2 year contract on a salary scale £8,990-£10,958.

Full details available from Andrew Hayes, Clerk to the Trustees, Wessex Cancer Trust, Royal South Hants Hospital, Brinton's Terrace, Southampton SO2 0AL. Applications in writing with c.v. and names of two referees - closing date 25th March, 1988.

## Delta Dimensions

## TRAINING SPECIALISTS

## MICRO TRAINERS REQUIRED

Two vacancies exist for experienced trainers in our expanding training division based in the City.

## dBASE TRAINER/PROGRAMMER

Applicants should ideally have a minimum of 12 months' experience in training and programming in dBase III plus. A knowledge of Clipper and UI Programmer would be an advantage.

## WP/INTEGRATED TRAINER

Candidates should have a good knowledge of at least three industry standard packages such as WordPerfect, Wordstar, MS Word, Symphony, Framework II and DOS.

Send CV in the first instance to the Personnel Dept  
22/23 RED LION STREET, LONDON WC1R 4PS  
Tel 01 831 8994

AUTHORISED TRAINING CENTRE

ASHTON · TATE · LOTUS

VISA



**Technical Data**  
INTERNATIONAL

## Customer Support Representative £12 -£15K

You will be working at the critical interface between the financial world and a sophisticated information service. Your role will be first-line user support and advice. An outgoing, approachable personality is essential since you will have considerable face-to-face and telephone contact with clients, often in a problem solving capacity. Thus, the ability to maintain a reassuring presence under pressure is important. Experience in financial services, or with computers is not essential, but a willingness to learn is. Languages would be a great advantage. Career development could take you into sales or technical specialisation. Likely age range: 22-27.

## Installation Coordinator £9 - £11K

You will be responsible for coordinating the installation of a state-of-the-art information service. Your role will involve considerable telephone contact with clients, communications companies, and equipment suppliers. Organization, initiative, and enthusiasm are essential in this key position. Some experience with computers, or the ability to speak French or German would be a plus. Career development could take you into customer support or technical specialisation. Likely age: 22-27.

All candidates should reply with full C.V., in strict confidence to: Elizabeth Truesdale, Technical Data International, CentrePoint, 103 New Oxford St., London WC1A 1DD.

## NEW LASER PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

## "MANAGING CHANGE"

Warwickshire

Package to £20,000

LUMONICS are considered world leaders in the development of solid-state laser and laser based systems. Our continued growth is founded on the successful targeting and developing of next generation products. We take new laser concepts and develop viable commercial technology.

We now need a special individual who values the role of leader in an atmosphere of controlled change. A leader who sees his or her technical competence complementing management skills that ensure leadership by example. Someone who thrives on having an innovative role with very flexible boundaries.

As the initial remit you will set-up a new team that will identify and develop new technology opportunities for commercial exploitation to add momentum to the Company's enviable expansion. From there on the scope is virtually boundless.

To fill this key role you should be a science or engineering graduate with 5-10 years experience in high technology development with a thorough understanding of laser physics and related design. Most probably acquired via past relevant industrial experience. Above all, however, you should be able to demonstrate your leadership style is able to stimulate and motivate your team.

Our reward package is excellent and salary will be no obstacle to the right person. Contact Chris Ireland on Rugby (0788) 70821 to discuss this opportunity or alternatively send your CV to: Mike Newby, Director-Personnel and Administration, LUMONICS Ltd., Cosford Lane, Swift Valley, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 1GN.

LUMONICS

## Network Office Solutions

Calling IBM &amp; Compaq Professionals.

Sales: Novell Networks OTE £32k + car

Programmer: Dataflex preferred £8-12k.

HW Engineer: IBM/Compaq £8-12k + car.

SW Consultant: General £10-14k + car.

Immediate vacancies: Contact Paul Harrowell.

Harrowell  
h

(01) 541.1.541  
Harrowell UK Limited 72 Richmond Road Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT2 5BL

HEAD OF EXTERNAL  
RELATIONS

## CENTRAL LONDON

This is a challenging, senior position that requires a highly motivated individual with a proven record in management and several years experience in corporate public relations and public affairs.

Leading a small, closely knit team, the successful applicant will be responsible for all FDF External Relations activities, including managing the Press Office and Public Relations agencies. He/She will also be in charge of developing a major consumer education programme.

Personal qualities required are good organisational and media skills, the ability to act decisively under pressure and to work with top company executives.

A competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package are offered for this position.

Please apply with a full CV, giving details of your experience, to:

Director-General  
THE FOOD AND DRINK FEDERATION  
6 Catherine Street  
London WC2B 5JJ

(Please mark your envelope 'confidential')

The Food and Drink Federation is the principal trade association representing the UK food and drink industry. It has 44 trade association members, of which 33 are serviced at Federation House.

## RE-ADVERTISEMENT

## WEST GLAMORGAN HEALTH AUTHORITY

## DESIGN AND CAPITAL PROGRAMMING

## HEAD OF DIVISION

Salary: Circa £21,500 -£26,200 p.a.

This new post combines our Design and Capital Programming departments.

Reporting to the Assistant General Manager (Planning) you will assume responsibility for the financial, design and tactical management of all aspects of the Capital Programme (currently in excess of £13 million per annum). In addition you will be the Senior Works professional within the District.

We are seeking a Senior Works professional who can aspire to a general management position.

Applicants for this demanding but rewarding role must be corporate members of the Institutions of Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Electronic and Radio Engineers or the C.I.E.S.E., the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the Chartered Institute of Building (post 1985) or a Registered Architect.

Ideally your experience will have covered Capital programming, estate management, and the co-ordination of multi disciplinary design work whilst developing a resilience and the skills to motivate both yourself and others. It is essential that you have gained experience in at least some of the disciplines together with the ability to learn quickly the areas you are not yet familiar with.

Mr A J Beddow, the Board Member responsible for Planning issues would be glad to deal with informal enquiries and is available on Swansea 458066 ext. 304. Job descriptions and further details of the District may be obtained from District Personnel Officer, West Glamorgan Health Authority, 36 Orchard Street, Swansea SA1 8AQ.

Closing date for applications is 5th April 1988.

SUGAR BEET  
ADVISER

The National Farmers' Union seeks to appoint an Adviser in their Sugar Beet Section. It is expected that the successful applicant will have a degree in science and/or economics with fluent French and possibly another EC language.

The Sugar Beet Adviser is responsible for:-

The running of the Sugar Beet Committee, which also operates its own sugar beet fund with an annual income of £24 million.

Annual negotiation, with outside professional assistance, of the sugar beet contract and price, and the action needed to ensure proper implementation of the contract arrangements at factory level.

The operation of the field force of 120 employed during the sugar beet campaign to oversee beet reception and sampling procedure at British Sugar factories.

Continuation of the Sugar Beet Committee's links with European and world-wide organisations.

Negotiating and management experience will be desirable.

For further particulars and application form apply to: The Director of Personnel (BRK), NFU, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NL.

EASINGTON DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
OFFICERS (2 posts)

Salary: Scale 6/SO1 -£11,191/£12,075 p.a.

Owing to an increase in establishment and a recent external promotion applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the above posts. Duties will cover the whole range of the environmental health function including a small amount of meat inspection but excluding food hygiene.

The posts will be ideally suited to both newly qualified and/or experienced officers in this progressive County Durham Authority.

The district comprises some 24,000 acres with a population of 96,000. The administrative centre is within easy reach of the historic City of Durham and the district contains the whole of the Durham County coast line.

The post carries an essential user car allowance, removal expenses and housing accommodation may be available in approved cases.

Further information is available from Mr J Perkins, Chief Environmental Health Officer, Weasdale (091) 5270501 extension 379.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Services Department (ext 240) and should be completed and returned to arrive no later than Friday 25th March, 1988.

Easington  
DISTRICT COUNCILNEWNHAM COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

The college wishes to appoint an

ACCOUNTANT

to be responsible through the Bursar for the effective operation of the college's accounting and financial management procedures. Salary £14,500 - £17,630.

Further particulars from  
The Bursar's Secretary,  
Newnham College, Cambridge, CB3 9DF  
Tel (0223) 335751.



## PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

NEW YORK CITY U.S.A.

FOR

RNs

THE PLACE TO BE!  
THE PLACE TO WORK!KINGSBROOK JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER  
A BETTER HOSPITAL  
BECAUSE IT DARES TO BE DIFFERENT  
SEEKS 20 REGISTERED NURSESWe Are A Unique Acute  
And Long-Term Care Medical Center  
Located in Brooklyn, New York City  
A University Affiliated Modern Institution  
With 2000 Employees, Just 45 Minutes  
From Broadway or The Statue Of LibertyANNUAL SALARY SCALE  
DEPENDENT ON EDUCATION,  
SHIFT ASSIGNMENT£16,170 to £17,686 Appx.  
(\$28,300 to \$30,950)

PLUS

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLAN • AIR FARE ADVANCE  
LOW COST HOUSING • ORIENTATION PROGRAM  
IN-SERVICE TRAINING • TUITION PLAN  
NEW YORK LICENSURE PREPARATION • UNIFORMSINTERVIEWS IN JUNE 1988 IN LONDON  
AND MANCHESTER • FOR INFORMATION AND  
BROCHURES INTERESTED CANDIDATES  
SHOULD SEND RESUME OR

CURRICULUM VITAE TO:

BERNARD ORNSTEIN  
DIRECTOR OF PERSONNELKINGSBROOK JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER  
585 SCHENECTADY AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY 11203 U.S.A.EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F  
A NON-SECTARIAN INSTITUTION

Southend-on-Sea

The place to be!

DIRECTOR OF  
FINANCE£27,801 - £30,585  
(under review) + lease car  
and relocation packageThe retirement of the Town Clerk  
and the appointment to that  
vacancy of Mr. Douglas Moulson  
has created a vacancy for this top  
post which carries wider than  
average Treasurer's Department  
responsibilities.Applicants must be professionally  
qualified with wide managerial and  
financial experience capable of  
taking a leading role in the  
corporate Management Boards.  
Further details will be supplied  
with an application form which  
can be obtained from Roy  
Peacock, Town Clerk, P.O. Box 6,  
Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue,  
Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2  
6ER, to whom it should be  
returned no later than 31st  
March, 1988.HUMBERSIDE PROBATION SERVICE  
RESEARCH AND INFORMATION OFFICER  
HEAD OFFICE, BEVERLEY

Salary Scale S01 (£11,322 - £12,075)

Working within the framework of its Corporate Strategy  
the Service has successfully introduced a computer based  
information system using PROBUS software. Phase II will  
be the development of computer based information  
systems at field office level. We need someone with flair  
and research and information experience to help us build  
on our current capability.The Research and Information Officer is accountable to  
an Assistant Chief Probation Officer for the operation and  
development of an effective research, information and  
statistical service within the county service. The  
successful applicant will join a service with a strong sense  
of direction and a commitment to working effectively.We are looking for someone who has the ability to:  
\* communicate enthusiasm and get things done within  
the framework of the Corporate Strategy;  
\* relate ideas to practice and to think conceptually;  
\* work with staff at all levels.

Informal enquiries are welcomed.

Contact Brian Fellows, Assistant Chief Probation Officer  
on 0482 867271.Application forms are available from: Humberside  
Probation Service, 21 Flemgale, Beverley, HU17 0NP.Applications duly completed should be returned not later  
than 31st March, 1988.

Humberside is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

MEDICAL  
CONSULTANTS /  
PRACTITIONERSJoin a group of U.K. medical consultants at  
the new Gibraltar based private Medical  
Diagnostic Clinic, opening in summer 1988.To include consulting/examination rooms,  
comprehensive X-ray, Ultrasound and  
Cardiac ImagingThe Clinic overlooks the marina, is com-  
pletely new and has easy access/car parking.  
10 minutes from Sotogrande, golf etc.

Send particulars to:

P. Martin  
52-54 Glenham Road, BARNES,  
London SW13 9J

## FRENCHAY HEALTH AUTHORITY

## New Posts

## Forensic Psychiatry

STAFF NURSES (RMN)  
ENROLLED NURSES (M)As part of the continued development of the sub Regional Forensic Service  
based at Glenside Hospital, Bristol we will shortly be opening in late May, a  
Rehabilitation Ward in preparation for the move to our purpose-built Unit in  
September of this year. In order to achieve this we are looking for motivated  
and enthusiastic individuals to join our committed multi-disciplinary team in  
providing the highest standards of patient care.In return we offer excellent opportunities for both professional and personal  
development in this specialised and developing branch of psychiatry, so why  
not join us and help in developing this new and exciting service.

Single accommodation may be available.

Informal enquiries welcome, contact: Paul Mortimer, Glenside Hospital.

Application forms from: Jim Salway, Unit Personnel Department, Glenside  
Hospital, Bristol BS16 1DD. Tel: 0272 653285 ext 412.

Closing date: March 25, 1988.

cityroads  
(Crisis Intervention)  
CO-ORDINATORCity Roads is a short stay residential unit for multiple drug users in the Greater London  
area. The unit has 22 workers, including social workers, nurses, an administration team  
and the support of a general practitioner and a consultant psychiatrist.The Co-ordinator has overall responsibility for the management of the project which  
includes the formation and monitoring of policy; the preparation of financial budgets and  
management accounts; the preparation of the Policy Plan and Annual Report and the  
planning of City Roads funding strategy. The Co-ordinator works closely with the Practice  
Co-ordinator to ensure that the highest standards of practice are sought and maintained.We are looking for someone who can think clearly and negotiate under pressure; has  
stamina, enthusiasm, and imagination; the ability to train, motivate and supervise staff and  
excellent communication skills. Good health, a sense of humour and patience are  
essential as is relevant experience.Salary: JNC Pt 32-36 £16,719-£18,374 inclusive of Inner London Weighting and  
Responsibility Allowance. This does not include an allowance for being on-call.City Roads operates an Equal Opportunities Policy and acceptance of this is a condition of  
employment.

Closing date for applications: 6th April, 1988.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to visit City Roads.

For further details and an application form please telephone Anne Hooper on 01-837 2772.

## CLAYESMORE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

(Co-educational Boarding and Day  
aged 4-13)

Required for September 1988 (or April)

## SENIOR MATRON (M/F)

Experienced person, preferably with nursing  
qualifications to be in charge of health and  
general welfare with the help of three assistants.

Full board and accommodation in term-time.

Please apply in writing with a telephone  
number, CV and names and addresses of two  
references to: The Headmaster, Clayesmore Pre-  
paratory School, Iwerne Minster, Blandford,  
Dorset DT11 8PHThe Diocese of Guildford  
DIRECTOR

## COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A vacancy for the post has arisen. The appointment to take effect  
in early September 1988. The post is open to women or men, lay  
or ordained who are communicant members of the Church of  
England having amongst other qualities, Christian commitment,  
theological competence and experience in social or community  
work. Preferred age bracket 35-50. Salary £11,210. Housing  
(depending on availability) or housing allowance (£2185 p.a.)  
provided. In addition, duties include: leading the Council in the  
Diocese to identify and meet its social responsibilities, acting as  
link with the relevant government and voluntary agencies and  
maintaining an effective organisation for the purpose.Applications by letter explaining interest, and CV giving details of  
education, qualifications and experience should reach the  
Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan House, Quarry Street, GUILDFORD  
GU1 2QG by MONDAY 22 April, 1988 (Interviews for shortlisted  
candidates 9 or 13 May).

## BILINGUAL ACCOUNTANT

French Chamber of Commerce in GB requires a  
French speaking accountant/administrative secretary  
to take responsibility for the entire in house ac-  
counting function (accounts to trial balance, budget &  
year end accounts, monthly management report) and  
for the office administration. Age 25+ - Computer  
literacy essential. Sal Neg.

Applications with C.V. &amp; details of current salary to

Madeleine Roe  
FCC G.B 197 Knightsbridge London SW7 1RBRother  
District CouncilSOLICITOR or  
BARRISTERFull-time or Part-time  
(Up to £18,740 pro rata)

## THE AUTHORITY

- offers an attractive mixture of town and country in  
the heart of the 1066 area of East Sussex.- has an area of almost 200 square miles with an  
extensive coastline, including the seaside town of  
Bexhill-on-Sea, the historic towns of Battle and  
Rye and some delightful countryside, much of  
which is within an Area of Outstanding Natural  
Beauty.

## THE DEPARTMENT

- comprises two Divisions based in Bexhill-on-Sea:  
Administrative and Legal Services, and Personnel  
and Management Services, the former headed by  
the Secretary who functions as the Council's  
Solicitor.

## THE POST

- offers the opportunity to be involved in all the areas  
of legal work normally undertaken by a District  
Authority.- encompasses particular responsibility for the  
provision of legal advice to Senior Officers and  
Elected Members arising out of the functions of the  
Council's Housing Services and Recreation and  
Tourism Committees.

## THE PERSON

- need not necessarily have previous local authority  
experience.- may either be newly qualified, about to qualify or  
have several years' experience, the actual salary  
and range being dependent thereon.- may be attracted by the possibility of a part-time or  
job sharing arrangement.

- will receive a generous relocation package.

## THE NEXT STEP

- is to obtain an application and further details from  
the Personnel and Management Services Officer,  
Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3JX.  
(Telephone Bexhill 216321, Ext. 296).- if wished informally to discuss the post is to  
telephone the Council's Secretary, Trevor Elliot  
(Telephone Bexhill 216321, Ext. 207).

## THE CLOSING DATE

for receipt of applications is the 31st March, 1988.

HORIZONS  
When music plays  
a healing roleA guide to  
career opportunitiesThe saying that music soothes the savage  
breast has lasted because its truth is  
continually being demonstrated. Modern  
therapists believe that the controlled  
use of music can treat disorders of the  
mind, body and emotions in every age  
group."Music," says Margaret Pickett, head  
of the Department of Music Therapy at  
the Guildhall School of Music and  
Drama, "is a non-verbal language which  
can communicate ideas, images and  
feelings when speech is absent or  
rejected."Music therapists work in many set-  
tings, including psychiatric and mental  
handicap hospitals and day-centres,  
units for the elderly, special schools,  
child-assessment centres and nurseries.  
They are increasingly being employed as  
community workers to encourage ther-  
apy in the home. In the National Health  
Service they have similar pay and hierar-  
chy to other paramedical services.The problems which music therapists  
encounter take many forms. They in-  
clude severe depression, psychotic states,  
impairment of movement, learning and  
speech and behavioural disturbance.We are all affected by sound and  
music. It begins in the womb with the  
mother's heart beat. Different rhythms  
stimulate or calm, loud music can evoke  
excitement or maybe aggression, soft  
music can soothe, high frequencies can  
cause tension and low frequencies relax-  
ation.Music therapists use all these elements  
of sound and music to address them-  
selves to people's needs. Those who are  
treated do not have to be able to play a  
formal instrument but are encouraged to  
improvise creatively. The therapist must  
be a highly skilled professional musician to  
guide the musical relationship which  
ensues.Margaret Pickett observes that all  
handicaps compound others. The physi-  
cally ill or handicapped child may have  
social, emotional and learning problems.  
So the therapist tries to treat the "whole"  
child. As bodies respond to rhythm, this  
promotes movement. In group activities  
a child can "make friends" musically. He  
can express rage, fear and mistrust in this  
safer setting, and learn basic skills.This containing factor applies in  
psychiatric treatment. A middle-aged man  
had a breakdown which left him with  
without a sense of direction or motiva-  
tion.He told staff at a day-centre: "I came  
to music because I feel contained and  
comfortable." He meant that he was able  
to explore his problems in a new way in  
the safety of the non-verbal musical  
medium.

Margaret Pickett works mostly with

psychiatric patients. She says music has  
the power to lift depression, however  
slowly and painfully. It is often the first  
contact with the very withdrawn or psy-  
chotic.I went with her to a London hospital  
where she cooperates with physiothera-  
pists in a project to promote and main-  
tain movement in the elderly mentally  
ill. She sang each patient's name,  
identifying their personality within the  
group.Because of the musical support, the  
patients were better able to perform the  
movements the physiotherapist wished  
to improve. I was struck by the atmos-  
phere of loving kindness radiated by all  
the staff, and the change the music elicit-  
ed in those initially uninvolved. Marg-  
aret Pickett says it is important tolimited, and in music therapy one often  
notices the passing between people of  
feelings which are experienced but not  
precisely comprehended. "The relation-  
ship which is built up is not only that  
between the client and the therapist, but  
between the client and music. Staff often  
move on to different jobs, which causes  
superficiality in relationships, but if the  
patients have developed musical  
responsiveness, they will always have  
something tangible to which they can  
relate."Mr Wigram makes use of both pre-  
written and improvised music, in order to  
reach and elicit responses from  
patients.Creative improvisation is considered  
very important at the Nordoff-Robbins  
Music Therapy Centre, too. This is run  
on principles laid down by the composer  
and pianist, Paul Nordoff, and Clive  
Robbins, who teamed up to work with  
handicapped children. Sybil Beresford-  
Peirse, the centre's director, told me that  
Paul Nordoff had concluded that no  
amount of playing composed music was  
likely to meet the inner child in the same  
way. Having done this, they drew the  
child into a shared musical activity.These men also evolved scales of  
assessment, accepted as valid by the  
medical and teaching professions, to  
show a child's progress and the type of  
musical response he was making. These  
techniques had now been adapted to the  
needs of older people.About 60 children attend the centre  
each week. "All children respond to  
music in one form or another," says Miss  
Beresford-Peirse, telling me of an autistic  
child with whom she was working. After  
watching a session, a psychiatrist com-  
mented: "I wish our profession could  
make contact with the children as quick-  
ly as you do. I have thought why it is. We  
have to work through words and they are  
a barrier. Music touches the emotions  
immediately."Musicians who want to share their  
music other than through public perfor-  
mance can be trained to direct their skills  
to help others. This can often prove as  
satisfying and less lonely than a life on  
the concert circuit.There are three one-year courses of  
post-professional training, each with a  
different approach.Addresses of courses and further details  
can be obtained from Mrs Denise  
Christophers, BSMT administrator, 69  
Avondale Avenue, East Barnet EN4 8NB,  
and Diana Ashbridge, secretarial assis-  
tant, Association of Professional Music  
Therapists, The Meadow, 68 Pierce  
Lane, Fulbourn, Cambridge CB1 5DL.

Next week: dance movement therapy

## TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Assistant Town  
Clerk (Legal)

Salary Grade: (42-45) £16,329- £17,541

This third-tier post has the responsibility for the day to day control of the Legal Section  
of the Department, and it offers an opportunity to join a progressive authority with an  
extensive range of legal work.The Council are seeking a good Lawyer and applicants must be solicitors preferably  
with good all round government experience, particularly in relation to public law,  
public inquiries, conveyancing, order making procedures etc. but experienced  
solicitors without a local government background should not be deterred from  
applying. The post carries an Essential User Car Allowance, and car loan facilities are  
available.The Borough, which is to host the 1992 National Garden Festival and is situated on the  
edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park, will make a contribution of up to £1000  
towards relocation expenses, and/or temporary housing accommodation is available in  
approved cases.For an informal discussion about the post please contact Keith Jones, Deputy Town  
Clerk (0495) 350555 ext. 213.Application forms are obtainable from the Personnel Division, Civic Centre, Ebbw  
Vale, Gwent NP23 6XB or by telephoning Ebbw Vale, (0495) 350555, ext. 285 and  
should be returned not later than 1.00 p.m. on Friday, 25th March 1988.The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Canvassing will be disallowed and  
family relationship to any member or senior officer of the council should be  
disclosed.BOROUGH OF  
BLAENAU GWENTHOME OF THE 1992  
NATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

THE LAW SOCIETY IS LOOKING FOR A  
REGIONAL SECRETARY  
FOR THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLANDA three year trial is being undertaken to set up and provide regional services to  
local Law Societies in two areas of the country. One of these will cover the  
North West, based at Preston and including Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside,  
Greater Manchester and Cheshire.The aim is to improve communications between local Societies and the Law  
Society in London and support local Law Societies in the regional association  
in their dealings with the public and the profession.

The successful candidate in each case:-

- need not be a solicitor, but must understand the work of a solicitor;
- will be committed to the promotion of the work of solicitors;
- will be able to communicate effectively;
- will ideally have experience of public relations, producing newsletters, and  
organising meetings and conferences.

The post involves some travelling. The person appointed will hold a current  
driving licence and should be prepared to use his/her own car, for which an  
allowance will be paid in addition to the basic salary of around £14,000.Applications, including a full cv, should be sent to Roger Woodley, Personnel  
Controller, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL by 23  
March 1988.

We are an equal opportunities employer.



THE LAW SOCIETY



01-481 4481

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

REUTER  
SIMKIN  
RECRUITMENT

## USA PRACTICE

WCI. London office of US based practice seeks young company commercial solicitors for interesting work including high-tech, leasing and finance matters. Work will cover many jurisdictions. Excellent opportunity to work in an active purposeful environment. Office has US and UK qualified staff. Call Belinda Woodcock in London.

## SHARE SCHEMES

WCI. Management consultancy with specialist department seeks lawyers with tax, trust or pensions experience. Clients include many 'blue chip' companies. Salary according to age and experience but very attractive. Call Gareth Quarry in London.

## LONDON

26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE  
Tel: 01 405 6852. Telex 894084.

## BIRMINGHAM

Fountain Court, Steelhouse Lane,  
Birmingham B4 6DR. Tel: 021 200 2680

## MANCHESTER

Sunlight House, Quay Street,  
Manchester M3 3LF. Tel: 061 831 7127

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- Manchester** **Civil Litigation** **West Yorkshire** **Commercial Property**  
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## LONDON

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# Ten up for the mighty Mullins family



The Mullins family line up for Cheltenham. Left, Tom, Margaret, William, Maureen, Cloughane, Paddy, George, Jackie, Tony, Sandra and husband, Peter McCarthy (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

When Jackie Mullins rode the winner of the last race at Wedford racecourse, in Ireland, at the beginning of this month on Cross Flight, she completed a family sporting achievement that is almost certainly without equal (John Young writes).

Jackie Mullins, is married to William, the eldest son of Paddy Mullins, who for many years has been one of Ireland's leading racehorse trainers.

Her victory meant that all ten members of his immediate family - himself, his wife, four sons, daughter, son-in-law and two daughters-in-law - have all won a race under National Hunt rules.

Paddy, who will be 70 this year, rode a winner in his first point-to-point at the age of 12. He took out a trainer's licence in 1953, a year before he married, but his greatest success came only two years ago when Dawn Run won an unforgettable Cheltenham Gold Cup.

The mare made racing history by becoming the only horse ever to complete the Champion Hurdle and Gold Cup double.

Paddy's wife, Maureen, although an accomplished horsewoman, had

to wait until after she had raised her family before winning the only race in which she ever rode, on Razzo Forte, at Gowran Park in 1982.

Sandra, the eldest, was third in that same race, but has ridden six winners in all. She is married to Peter McCarthy, a hunting enthusiast who has had four winners under Rules.

William, Jackie's husband, aged 32, began show jumping and pony eventing at the age of eight. He rode so many winners in his first season, at the age of 18, that he promptly lost his riding allowance but, being

well over six feet, is too heavy to ride as a professional.

George, 29, who is engaged to be married later this year, is mainly responsible for managing the family farm.

Tony, the only professional jockey in the family, can ride at 5st 7lb. He rode Dawn Run in many of her victories. Tony has recently taken out a trainer's licence, although he continues to ride for his father.

His wife, Margaret, will be in opposition. All the brothers ride for their father.

Paddy once confessed that the occasion that had given him the greatest thrill of his career was watching Maureen ride her one and only winner. "None of the children believed that Mum could do it."

In today's Champion Hurdle, three of the Mullins family, Tony, Tom and William, will be in opposition. All the brothers ride for their father.

## Carberry reflects on golden moments

By Christopher Goulding

"It's the awesome hill facing you after the last fence that makes Cheltenham," exclaimed Tommy Carberry, the former Irish National Hunt jockey. "There certainly is nowhere quite like it."

Carberry rode winners of just about every race at the meeting, but it was steeplechasing's coveted crown, the Gold Cup, where he excelled.

He won the race four times, lost one on a doping technicality, and finished in the frame on three occasions.

Carberry's small stature was not obvious when astride his raw-boned Irish steeplechaser. In the Gold Cup, he needed to carry three stone of lead to make up the weight.

His stance in the saddle was unmistakable. A long rein, short stirrup leathers and body poised high above the saddle. Out in the country he always had his mouth relaxed, but after jumping the last he would get down low and punch for home.

Unlike a lot of former riders, he still retains a rakish figure.

Drawing on a chair, sitting in his home near Ashbourne in Co Meath, he reflects on his past victories. "Cheltenham was certainly a lucky course for me. I rode my first winner over jumps at the Festival on Tripacer, in the 1962 Gloucester Hurdle. My first ride in the Gold Cup, on L'Escargot, was also a winner.

Another long slow draw on his cigar and Carberry looks up at his select picture collection of Festival triumphs. He describes what it was like galloping round the most famous field in Gloucestershire.

"I must admit there were some horses that took a right pull. Ten Up, who won the Gold Cup over a very deep going, was one of them. There was no point in fighting them. All the races are very competitive. I found that if you tried to pinch a couple of lengths up the inside, you were better getting the hell out of it to avoid trouble and maybe lose a bit of ground.

"You would not want to be kicking and pushing much before you take the last. At the top of the hill, three from home, the track narrows a bit and you hold your breath. Coming to the second-last, one minute you could be travelling well and the next you could be dying at 100 miles an hour."

"In all my years riding, I did not notice the rear from the crowd when jumping the last. If you are lucky enough to be there, you put your head down and go for it. That hill tears the bottom out of your horse."

"It's hard to say what was the best I rode in the Gold Cup. I suppose L'Escargot must be one of them. He gave me two Gold Cups and a Grand National. There aren't many that do that are there."

Victory was to elude Tied Cottage. "It was a great disappointment when we lost the 1980 Gold Cup after a dope test. I had also been second on him three years earlier to Davy Lad. In 1979, we were beaten after knocking over at the last when Alverton won."

Carberry was forced to retire on doctor's orders. "I had a fall from a two-year-old while out at exercise and broke my hip. It was amazing to finish like that."

Carberry has an outside chance of training his first Festival winner with Purdum Winder in the County Hurdle.

## Edwards confident Pearlyman can retain his two-mile championship

By John Dorman

With such high-quality fields and so much at stake, Cheltenham's National Hunt Festival is the most difficult meeting of the season for picking winners. Only one favourite, See You Then, obliged on the opening day last year, when half the races on the card were won at prices of 14-1 and upwards.

In addition, heavy rain in the Cheltenham area on Sunday night has caused some trainers and jockeys to delay making final decisions. Bearing this in mind, six men who might expect to be in the shake-up this week spoke about their chances.

John Edwards is tipped by many to be the leading trainer at the meeting, although the withdrawal of Kissance from the Sun Alliance has certainly weakened his chances.

Nevertheless, the Ross-on-Wye trainer goes to the Festival with a strong team, headed by stable star Pearlyman, who will defend the Queen Mother Champion Chase he won so well last year.

"Pearlyman is very well," Edwards said yesterday, "and I am quietly confident, though

I have great respect for Very Promising. But I would certainly hope to win the race again this year."

Bob Tisdall will now represent the stable in the Sun Alliance Chase. Horn Of Plenty, Mountain Crash and Troy Fair all go in the Coral Golden Hurdle, and the yard's Grand National hope, Little Polvier, must be a fancy in the Kim Muir.

Edwards has yet to make up his mind about Yahoo, impressive winner of the Greenall Whitley at Haydock, but the horse will run in either the Gold Cup or the Ritz Chase.

David Nicholson reckons the Champion Chase was the race of the meeting last year, and again sends out Very Promising to take on Pearlyman.

"The horse is in very good form," the Condote trainer reports. "I just hope it's as good a race as last year."

Nicholson has Generally Right in today's opener, the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle and Cottage Run in the Grand Annual Chase. Agathist goes in the Coral Hurdle final tomorrow.

and Loddon Lad in the Cathcart on Thursday.

However, Nicholson is surprised that Charter Party is not a shorter price in the Gold Cup betting, although he did come in to 12-1 from 16-1 over the weekend. "He gave Rhyme 'N' Reason weight at Sandown last time and beat him," he points out.

Josh Gifford is having a splendid season with 66 winners so far, but he has never trained a Festival winner and would dearly like to break his duck this week.

"Every day's racing is pressure, but I do feel a bit of added pressure not having had a Festival winner yet," he says.

The Findon trainer is pulling out all the stops this year with a large team, which currently includes three in the Kim Muir today - Bright Dream, You're Welcome and Ballymullish - and five in the Midway tomorrow, Chief Inroside, Summons, Our Fun, Lucky Rascal and Willy Yocman.

Dad's Gamble goes in the Cathcart, but Gifford is undecided about running Midnight Count in the Queen

Mother Champion Chase, as the horse has not schooled well since his Haydock fall.

Probably, Gifford's best chance of success this year lies with Saffron Lord in the Arkle Trophy today. "The horse is in excellent shape," the trainer said, "and I'm very confident."

Peter Scudamore was mightily relieved to get back to race riding on Saturday, and celebrated with a double at Chesham. The champion admits that his Festival rides amount to quantity rather than quality, and his best chance probably comes in the Champion Hurdle today.

"I rode work on Celtic Shot last week," he said, "and he seemed very well. But I think you have to respect both the French horses here this year."

The heavy rain on Sunday has caused Scudamore to delay his decision about his mounts in the Gold Cup and the Triumph Hurdle.

"I still haven't chosen between Beau Ranger and Run And Skip," he said yesterday. "I also have a choice of three of Mr Pipe's horses in the Triumph."

Steve Smith Eccles has a

## Kildimo remains on course for Gold Cup attempt

Kildimo will run in the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Thursday provided he remains sound, his trainer, Toby Balding, said yesterday.

"Kildimo worked a mile this morning with Bursanpou and Salehmar," Balding added, "and although he had a good blow he pleased us. He has just been examined by our vet and is sound. He has been declared at the four-day stage for the Gold Cup and provided he pleases in the next two days will run."

The eight-year-old was the Gold Cup favourite when going lame after working last Tuesday, but since that set-back has been generally quoted at 4-1 with a run by bookmakers, with Playchool promoted to market leader.

Persistent rain since Sunday evening has turned the Cheltenham going from good to soft, and with the forecast for continued light rain, at least over the first two days of the meeting, the ground is likely to remain soft.

"By Thursday the rain will probably have become more intermittent and it is also because of the weather," Balding said yesterday. "From a weather point of view Thursday could be the best day."

Edward Gillespie, the general manager, commented: "We

would be looking for an attendance of around 35,000 tomorrow rising to 50,000 on Thursday."

Gillespie also remains confident that there be few serious problems despite the pre-meeting problems concerning ticket distribution. "The vast majority of people will have received tickets by now and I do not foresee many great difficulties on the day."

There was only one overnight withdrawal, Nos Na Gaoithe, from the Champion Hurdle, but the prospect of increasingly favourable underfoot conditions has prompted Paddy Mullins to run Cloughane in the Champion rather than the Stayers' event later in the afternoon.

One of the arguments against Marly River winning the Champion Hurdle - that his jockey Jean-Yves Artu has no experience of Cheltenham - was obviated, at least in part, by Artu being booked to ride Joara for Martin Pipe in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle.

Missing from the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle will be Mrs Muck, who has injured a foot. "We're not quite sure what the problem is at the moment," Balding commented. "It is either bruised or poisoned."

## Harwood unscathed after nasty fall on Betty's Pearl

By Brian Beel

Amanda Harwood had a lucky escape from serious injury at the Cheltenham Festival on Saturday. Riding Betty's Pearl in the adjacent hunts race, she was squeezed for room at one of the bends and her foot caught a post, catapulting her from the saddle into the path of the oncoming horses, bringing down two, Quayside Battle and Applato.

Miss Harwood, who had previously won the ladies' race on Only For Love, was unscathed and rode Diddling Down into third place in the maiden race which followed. Applato's rider, Sarah Wilson, was not so fortunate as she sustained a broken collar bone as a result of her fall.

The highlight of the day's racing was John Llewellyn's treble at the Brecon. The winner that gave him the most pleasure was Fiked Price who, at 14 years old, still showed the ability to quicken when necessary and stay on well after hitting the front two fences from home.

Another old stager Urser, on his reappearance, however, failed to run on after Susan Easterby brought him upsidest the eventful winner, Willies Gig, two out in the Holderness Ladies.

Marks Methane proved a disappointment again when set-off as favourite in the adjacent race at the Mid Surrey Farmers. Paul Hacking led on him to the 13th fence, but just as he had done at Lingfield, he quickly weakened and was beaten into third place, a distance behind David Robinson.

who won on Motor Bike Man, and Grand Cheval (Gavin Wray).

The 1986 Grand Mariner winner, Sweet Diana, justified the odds of 4-1 on when she made her seasonal debut under Julie Dawson in the ladies' race at the Brocklesby, coming home unchallenged after Tallyrand, 12 lengths behind at the time, fell at the third last.

Two horses for the notebook are John's Birthday and Framfield, winners in identical terms of the two divisions of the maiden at the Oakley. John's Birthday, appropriately named by Mrs John Thomas, as he was born on the date of the birthday of her late husband, who was killed in a point-to-point fall, only just got home by a head under Nigel Ridout, but looks to have much scope for improvement.

Framfield, on the other hand, could not have been more impressive. When Trelawny Hill asked him to go, he produced a turn of foot in the last half mile, rarely seen in a maiden point-to-point.

From his 18 miles of race riding at the Silverton, Philip Schofield had two winners, Foxe's Castle and Brassimos, two seconds and a third to put him two ahead in the mens' title race.

There are 18 declared at the four-day stage for Thursday's Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. They are: Beau Ranger, Carver, Clon, Charter Party, Condote, Cyranid, Desert Orchid, Forgive 'N' Forget, Foyle Fishermen, Golden Friend, Kildimo, Luan A' Aghaidh, Maresia, Penstock, Rhyme 'N' Reason, Run And Skip, Stearsby, West Tip and Yahoo.

PLUMPTON			
Selections			
By Mandarin			
2.00 Moore Stylish.	3.45 Eliogarty.		
2.30 Dark Heritage.	4.20 Nicol John.		
3.00 Sonny Hill Lad.	4.50 Straight Gin.		
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 MOORE STYLISH.			
Brian Beel's selection: 3.45 Cauchemar.			
Going: good			
2.0 ARDINGLY NOVICES HURDLE (2799: 2m) (18 runners)			
5 23-0223 CUCKOO IN THE NEST 8 (5) (Mrs B Waters) D Elsworth 5-11-10	P Holley (7)	80	
6 40-023 THORFIELD 55 (Thornhill Securities Ltd) R Althorpe 4-11-9	I Shoemark (7)	81	
7 02-0400 DESIRES FROM 54 (Mrs C Brown) C Brown 7-10-11	H Davies	82	
8 02-0400 CASHMOR 1995 (Miss G Doherty) A Hicks 10-10-10	I Lawrence (7)	83	
9 02-0338 FILL THE AUG 364 (J Read) P Rodford 7-10-9	W Irvine (7)	84	
10 02-0338 COMMON ACCORD 14 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-9	J Duggan	85	
11 40-040 ARTISTIC CHAMPION 24 (Mrs W Rodman) J Jenkins 5-10-7	J Duggan	86	
12 PP-0304 SOME PANIC 18 (P Davis) P Davis 6-10-7	M Boyle	87	
13 PP-0304 SANDUR 27 (Mrs J Grest) D Grest 5-10-7	R Goldstein	88	
14 02-0400 PROBE 8 (W Higgins) W Higgins 5-10-4	D Gallagher (4)	89	
15 41-0111 NEVER A PENNY 14 (J Moore) J Moore 7-10-7	D Gallagher (4)	90	
16 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	Mr S McKewen (7)	91	
17 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	Mr S McKewen (7)	92	
18 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	93	
19 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	94	
20 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	95	
21 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	96	
22 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	97	
23 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	98	
24 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	99	
25 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	100	
26 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	101	
27 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	102	
28 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	103	
29 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	104	
30 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	105	
31 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	106	
32 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	107	
33 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	108	
34 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	109	
35 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	110	
36 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	111	
37 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	112	
38 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	113	
39 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	114	
40 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	115	
41 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	116	
42 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	117	
43 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	118	
44 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	119	
45 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	120	
46 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	121	
47 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	122	
48 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	123	
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50 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	125	
51 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	126	
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54 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	129	
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63 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	138	
64 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	139	
65 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	140	
66 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	141	
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69 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	144	
70 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	145	
71 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	146	
72 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	147	
73 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	148	
74 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	149	
75 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	150	
76 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	151	
77 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	152	
78 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	153	
79 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	154	
80 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	155	
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87 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	162	
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89 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	164	
90 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	165	
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95 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	170	
96 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	171	
97 02-0400 BRIGHT FAVOR 14 (J Doherty) A Hicks 5-10-1	Candy Moore (4)	172	
98 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	173	
99 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	174	
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110 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	185	
111 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	186	
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116 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	191	
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119 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	194	
120 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	195	
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122 02-0400 DUCKING LAD 147 (B) (S Potts) S Woodman 5-10-4	R Stronge	197	
123 34-0000 EAGLE MOSS 12 (D Beaman) D Ringer 5-10-1	D Murphy	198	



Japan will take 15% of EEC car sales

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# Celtic Chief has the right qualities to lift hurdling crown

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Following the victories of Comedy Of Errors in 1973 and 1975 and Gaye Brief five years ago, Celtic Chief is named to take the hurdling crown back to his trainer, Marjory Rimmel's Kinnerley home, a fourth time at Cheltenham today by winning the Waterford Crystal Hurdle.

Still unbeaten this season, Celtic Chief made a really deep impression at Sandown Park in February when he put Celtic Shot, who had himself won four races in a row, to rout.

The only other hurdler to have impressed me as much this season was Cloughtaney when he ran away with the Bishop's Cleeve Hurdle on today's course at the end of January.

However, that race was run over 2½ miles on atrociously heavy ground, and I would have much preferred to see him going for the Stayers' Hurdle later this afternoon.

In going for Celtic Chief instead, I am siding with the horse most likely to be suited by a fast-run race over two miles on good ground.

Apart from beating Celtic Shot so easily, albeit at a difference of 2lb, Celtic Chief has also accounted for Osric and High Knowl on other occasions this season. With Osric then winning at Ascot and Kempton, that form also holds up well.

The presence in the field of the crack French five-year-old Marjory River has helped to inject an enormous amount of added interest.

He has led from start to finish to win all his nine hurdle races at Auteuil where they hold him in high regard with every justification.

However, I feel that it is asking too much to expect him to adapt to jumping unfamiliar obstacles on a strange course in a race which also features several other confirmed front-runners, notably Floyd, High Knowl, and Juven Light.

Marjory River will be given no respite whatsoever on ground that will be faster than he has encountered for a long while.

In the circumstances, it will be remarkable if he has anything left when Celtic Chief, Celtic Shot, Cloughtaney and Swingint Gunner all begin their challenge.

Those who prefer to put their faith in the proven few who have run well in the Champion Hurdle before will prefer either Deep Idol (fourth 12 months ago) or



Celtic Chief and Richard Dunwoody, seen here scoring at Sandown, are fancied to capture today's Champion Hurdle

Nohaldmud, who finished third in 1986.

But I much prefer an up-and-coming individual of the calibre of Celtic Chief who, so importantly, gained the admiration of his big-race jockey Richard Dunwoody when he rode him for the first time in that race at Sandown.

Following the regrettable absence of Cloughtaney, the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle can now go again to Galmoy, the hero of the moment last year.

Earlier in the day, I will be looking to Vagador to retain his unbeaten record by winning the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle.

When, after a well deserved mid-winter rest, he won his fourth race at Fontwell Park three weeks ago he beat High Knowl and Juven Light, who are actually now deemed good enough to contest the Champion Hurdle itself. No other runner in today's field can boast a comparable performance.

Biloxi Blues, who came from another county to finish sixth in the same race last year, and Over The Counter looked the main dangers.

Abbey Glen has come with a big reputation from Ireland to contest the Arkle Challenge Trophy.

However, it is common knowledge that he has had a rushed preparation for this important event after first bruising a foot and then contracting a virus. I do not like that.

In any event, Abbey Glen was not as good over hurdles as Barnbrook Again, who has taken to chasing equally well.

Barnbrook Again should be in his element today now that he will be racing over two miles again after proving fallible over further at Chepstow.

Bonahma, who sidesteps the Arkle to contest the Grand Annual Challenge Cup, should go well without necessarily beating either Joint Sovereignty or Outlaw.

The latter tends to either win or fall but, granted a clear round, he will be hard to suppress.

But Cheltenham tends to be fraught with problems and I prefer Joint Sovereignty, who ran so well against Raise An Argument at Haydock ten days ago.

Finally, Fair Child looks a sporting bet to win the Kim Muir Memorial Challenge Cup and thus keep his trainer David Murray-Smith's personal cup of success brimful in what is his best-ever season.

## CHAMPION HURDLE LINE-UP BBC2

### 3.30 WATERFORD CRYSTAL CHAMPION HURDLE CHALLENGE TROPHY (Championship race: £52,225: 2m) (23 runners)

1-0-F2233 ALDINO 24 (V.D.S.) (A Boyd-Rochford) O Sherwood 5-12-0	S Sherwood	84
2-4-1111 CELTIC CHIEF 28 (D.G.S.) (Mrs L Sewell) Mrs M Rimmel 5-12-0	R Dunwoody	94
3-2-1112 CELTIC SHOT 38 (D.G.S.) (D Horroby) F Winer 6-12-0	P Scudamore	88
4-3-10241 CLASSICAL CHARM 44 (D.S.) (J O'Connell) J O'Connell (ire) 5-12-0	K Morgan	87
5-10P-211 CLOUGHTANEY 45 (C.D.S.) (C Maye) P Mullins (ire) 7-12-0	A Mullins	99
6-1-P4040 CONVINCED 3 (D.S.) (B Shrubbs) M Pipe 6-12-0	G Bradley	72
7-214-000 DEEP IDOL 76 (D.F.S.) (H Stanley) P Osborne (ire) 8-12-0	B Sheridan	90
8-1F-1401 FLOYD 19 (D.G.S.) (M Walsh) D Elsworth 8-12-0	C Brown	90
9-324032 HIGH KNOWL 22 (D.S.) (N Wellington) M Pipe 5-12-0	J Lower	83
10-141-103 JUVEN LIGHT 22 (D.F.S.) (R Dillay) R Akhurst 7-12-0	S Smith Eccles	86
11-11F-111 MARLY RIVER 9 (S) (C Hameau) Y Porzler (Fr) 5-12-0	J-Y Artu	92
12-110-312 NOHALMDUD 11 (D.G.S.) (J Keady) M H Easterby 7-12-0	L Wyer	89
14-0-32211 OSRIC 78 (D.G.S.) (R Scott) M Ryan 5-12-0	G McCourt	92
15-11224-3 PATS JESTER 19 (D.S.) (N Hetherington) W Esley 5-12-0	P A Farrell	78
16-1-11132 PATS JESTER 19 (D.S.) (R P Adam Ltd) R Allan 5-12-0	B Storey	84
17-1101-02 POSITIVE 24 (D.B.F.V.G.S.) (Ottendown Associates Ltd) M Pipe 6-12-0	R Beggan	82
18-40001-2 PRIVATE AUDITION 19 (D.F.) (P H Betts) M Tompkins 6-12-0	Mr T Thomson Jones	81
19-1P-13P SABIN DU LOIR 45 (D.B.F.S.) (B Kiparski) M Pipe 9-12-0	P Croucher	91
20-31P/111 SWINGINT GUNNER 75 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs G Barrow) C Tinker 7-12-0	N Doughty	84
21-1214-F3 TARTAN TAILOR 11 (D.C.F.G.) (Edinburgh Woolen Mill Ltd) G Richards 7-12-0	P Tuck	83
22-112102 TRADEHIMIN 31 (D.B.F.S.) (Mrs P Mullins) P Mullins (ire) 5-12-0	Mr T Mullins	81
23-002300 WILLIAM CRUMP 18 (D.G.S.) (Ottendown Associates Ltd) K Bailey 7-12-0	M Perrett	—
24-301-001 GRABEL 34 (D.G.S.) (P Kahoe) P Mullins (ire) 5-11-9	Mr W P Mullins	76

BETTING: 11-4 Celtic Chief, 5-1 Marly River, 6-1 Celtic Shot, 13-2 Swingint Gunner, 9-1 Cloughtaney, 10-1 Osric, 16-1 Floyd, 20-1 Classical Charm, 25-1 Grabel, Nohaldmud, 33-1 others.

1987: SEE YOU THEN 7-12-0 S Smith Eccles (11-10 fav) N Henderson 18 ran

## Form guide to the 23 big-race contenders

ALDINO (11-8) 41 2nd to Mole Board (11-4) at Haydock (2m, £3727, good to soft, Mar 4, 7 ran) with Tartan Tailor (11-12) 31 3rd.

OSRIC (11-3) quickened to beat Aldino (11-3) 81 at Kempton (2m, £1950, good, Dec 28, 5 ran) with Nohaldmud (11-3) 21 3rd. Floyd (11-3) 14th, Juven Light (11-3) 251 7th and Convicted (11-3) 71 8th.

PAST GLORIES (11-0) 1/2 2nd to Alone Success (11-0) in last year's Triumph Hurdle (2m, £2585, good, Mar 19, 29 ran) with Gravel (11-0) 151 3rd, High Knowl (11-0) 101 4th, Celtic (11-0) 51 5th and Aldino (11-0) 31 6th.

PATS JESTER see Celtic Chief

POSITIVE (11-1) 41 2nd to Nos Na Gaoithe (11-1) at Nottingham (2m, £5590, good to soft, Feb 20, 8 ran) last time with Aldino (11-10) 151 3rd.

PRIVATE AUDITION see Floyd

SABIN DU LOIR (10-11) showed best form on Ascot debut (3m 2f, £2520, good to soft, Dec 10, 10 ran) when 121 winner from Sprouton Boy (10-11) with Osric (10-11) 51 3rd.

SWINGINT GUNNER (11-0) quickened well from the last for easy 41 win over Gaye Brief (11-0) here last time (2m 4f, £2392, good to soft, Dec 31, 5 ran).

TARTAN TAILOR see Nohaldmud

TRADEHIMIN (12-0) short head 2nd to Bilalay (10-13) at Leopardstown (2m, £3800, heavy, Feb 13, 10 ran) latest start.

WILLIAM CRUMP (11-0) has been chasing for most of the season and looks outclassed over hurdles in this company.

GRABEL (11-6) best Capable (11-3) 1/2 at Down Royal (2m, £3800, heavy, Feb 10, 5 ran).

Selection: CLOUGHTANEY

## CHELTHENHAM

### Selections By Mandarin

2.15 Vagador.  
2.50 Barnbrook Again.  
3.30 CELTIC CHIEF (nap).  
4.05 Galmoy.  
4.40 Fair Child.  
5.15 Joint Sovereignty.

By Michael Seely

2.15 VAGADOR (nap), 3.30 Celtic Chief, 5.15 Joint Sovereignty.

### Guide to our in-line racecard

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-Tell).  
F-Tell. Unbeaten record. B-Tell. Brought down.  
D. Dropped. H. Heavy. J. Jockey. L. Lost. M. Maiden.  
Days since last outing. B-Tell. Brought down.  
H-Tell. Heavy. J-Tell. Jockey. L-Tell. Lost.  
M-Tell. Maiden. P-Tell. Penetration. S-Tell. Staying.  
Distance winner. C-Tell. Course and distance winner.

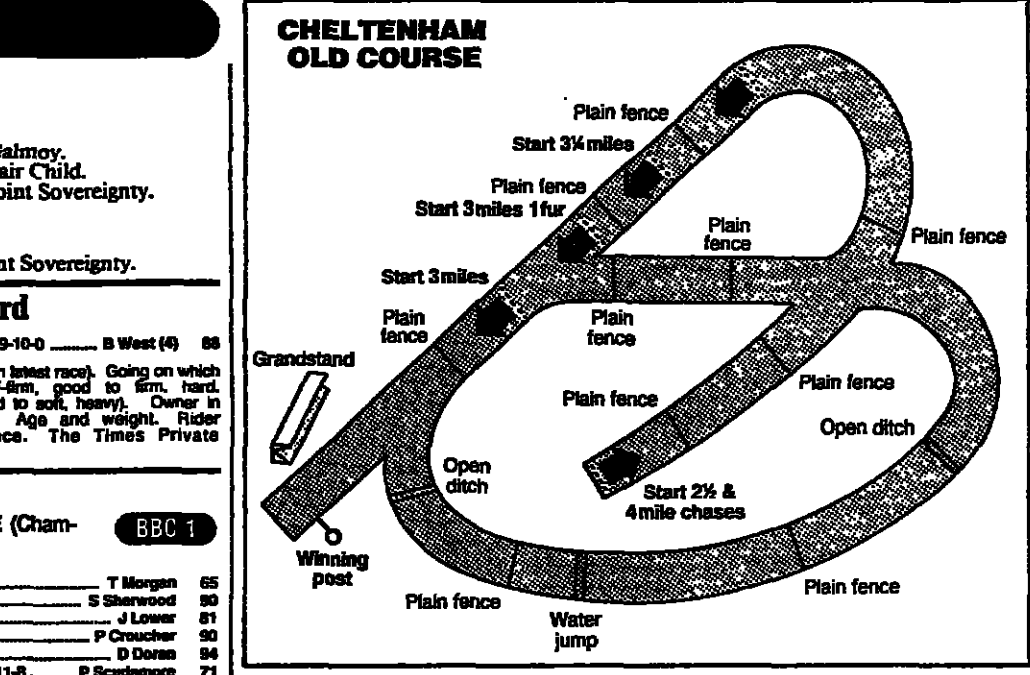
### Going: soft

#### 2.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREME NOVICES HURDLE (Championship race: £28,596: 2m) (26 runners)

102 F-24220 AUTUMN SPORT 17 (D.F.G.) (C Jenkins) J Edwards 7-11-8	T Morgan	65
103 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Pever	60
104 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J Lower	60
105 F-21102 BILLO BLUES 17 (D.G.S.) (R Gaskin) K Bailey 6-11-8	P Croucher	90
106 F-12123 CAPABLE 19 (D.S.) (F Cresswell) T Curtis (ire) 6-11-8	D Doreen	94
107 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P Scudamore	71
108 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	Mr D Robinson	71
109 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	R Rowe	72
110 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	R Powell	72
111 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	T Coady	72
112 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	K Mooney	72
113 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	M Dwyer	72
114 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	G Bradley	72
115 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Sheridan	72
116 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	C Brown	72
117 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J Lower	72
118 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Smith Eccles	72
119 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J-Y Artu	72
120 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	L Wyer	72
121 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	G McCourt	72
122 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P A Farrell	72
123 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	B Storey	72
124 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	R Beggan	72
125 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	Mr T Thomson Jones	72
126 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P Croucher	72
127 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	N Doughty	72
128 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P Tuck	72
129 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	Mr T Mullins	72
130 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	M Perrett	72
131 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	Mr W P Mullins	72

BETTING: 4-1 Vagador, 5-1 Barnbrook Again, 6-1 Celtic Chief, 12-1 Tabito, Releto, Master Swordsman, 14-1 Away We Go, 16-1 Deep Treasure, 18-1 Pats Jester, 20-1 French Goblet, 22-1 Gravel, 24-1 General Ruler, 26-1 Nohaldmud.

1987: TARTAN TAILOR 5-11-8 P Tuck (14-1) G Richards 20 ran



### 4.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL STAYERS HURDLE (Championship race: £33,981: 3m 11f) (19 runners)

401 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Pever	60
402 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J Lower	60
403 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P Croucher	90
404 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	D Doreen	94
405 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P Scudamore	71
406 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	Mr D Robinson	71
407 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	R Rowe	72
408 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	R Powell	72
409 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	T Coady	72
410 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	K Mooney	72
411 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	M Dwyer	72
412 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	G Bradley	72
413 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Sheridan	72
414 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	C Brown	72
415 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J Lower	72
416 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	S Smith Eccles	72
417 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	J-Y Artu	72
418 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	L Wyer	72
419 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	G McCourt	72
420 F-11149 AWAY WE GO 17 (D.F.S.) (J Parnell) J Jenkins 6-11-8	P A Farrell	72

BETTING: 2-1 Galmoy, 7-1 Miss Nora, 8-1 Ten Plus, 10-1 Alone Success, 11-1 Flying Tove, 12-1 Tom Sharpe, 14-1 Tabito, 16-1 Releto, 18-1 Pats Jester, 20-1 French Goblet, 22-1 Gravel, 24-1 General Ruler, 26-1 Nohaldmud.

1987: GALMOY 8-11-10 T Coady (8-2) J Mullins (ire) 14 ran

### FORM

ALONE SUCCESS (11-0) 1/2 2nd to King's College (11-0) at Kempton with RIVA ROSE (11-0) 1/2 2nd (3m, £334, good to soft, Feb 27, 6 ran).

BLUFF COVE (10-8) best judged on penultimate start when beating MISS MERO (10-8) 1/2 at Ascot (2m, £2590, good to soft, Feb 19, 10 ran).

FLYING TROVE (12-0) 1/2 4th to Cloughtaney (12-0) at Leopardstown on penultimate start (2m, £2300, good, Dec 30, 7 ran).

GALMOY (11-12) best of Old Money (11-1) 1/2 at Newbury with FLYING TROVE (11-1) 1/2 (4m 2m, £2750, heavy, Feb 10, 11 ran).

GAYE BRIEF (11-0) 10th to James (10-0) at Newbury (2m 10f, £2220, heavy, Feb 13, 19 ran).

MISS MERO (11-0) best of Old Money (11-1) 1/2 at Newbury with FLYING TROVE (11-1) 1/2 (4m 2m, £2750, heavy, Feb 10, 11 ran).

PRINCESS DAPHNE (11-0) best of Old Money (11-1) 1/2 at Newbury with FLYING TROVE (11-1) 1/2 (4m 2m, £2750, heavy, Feb 10, 11 ran).

TABERNA LOR (11-0) 1/2 4th to Cloughtaney (12-0) at Leopardstown on penultimate start (2m, £2300, good, Dec 30, 7 ran).

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# Jockey Club cracks the whip

By Andrew Longmore

The machine-gun whipping action, used by Lester Piggott when he won the 1977 Derby on The Minstrel and subsequently adopted by Pat Eddery, is to be outlawed by the Jockey Club for the coming Flat season.

If new guidelines designed to tighten up on the excessive and improper use of the whip had been in force then, Piggott could have been suspended by the stewards for a maximum of 14 days.

The new code was announced yesterday and it comes into force for National Hunt and Flat jockeys on March 24, the first day of the Flat season, although stewards at Cheltenham will also be asked to look more closely at improper use of the whip during the National

Hunt Festival meeting which starts today.

Harsher penalties have been brought in to back up the Jockey Club's determination to stop the increase in the use of the whip, particularly by apprentices, amateurs and conditional jockeys. A first offence could earn a two-day suspension, a second offence could be punished by a two-week suspension, and a third would go before the disciplinary committee.

The new regulation will apply equally to owners and trainers, who could be subject to heavy fines for instructing jockeys to break the rules in use of the whip.

Lord Vestey, chairman of the Jockey Club disciplinary committee, said at the presentation of the guidelines: "There is a strong feeling among the general public

and inside racing that the use of the whip has got out of control and, with more races being seen on SIS, it is very important for the image of racing that excessive use of the whip is curbed.

"We are particularly concerned about the number of young jockeys riding too short who make up for their lack of balance by over-use of the whip. It is a matter of educating everyone in racing — jockeys, trainers, owners and the racing Press about what is and is not acceptable," he added.

The main change in regulations is summed up in the maxim "if it offends the eye," added Major Peter Stevens, the senior stewards' secretary, which means that stewards will no longer take into consideration whether the jockey made contact with the horse or not,

or of veterinary evidence that a horse had thin skin and therefore marked more easily.

The overriding consideration in the future, said Major Stevens, would be whether it looked bad to the general public.

The stewards now have a delicate task in keeping the balance between making sure that every effort is used to give a horse a chance of winning, and in enforcing the new guidelines.

As a general rule, they have been asked to inquire into cases where jockeys use their whip more than 10 times in a flat race or after the second last jump in a National Hunt race.

Cheltenham National Hunt Festival card and preview, pages 44 and 45

# Elsworth fined after error by secretary

By Andrew Longmore

David Elsworth will hope his luck takes a turn for the better later this week when he runs the strongly fancied Cavvies Clown, Rhyme 'N' Reason and Desert Orchid in the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Thursday.

The Hampshire-based trainer was fined £2,000 yesterday for declaring, but failing to run, Desert Orchid in the Racing Post Stewards' Chase at Kempton Park on February 27. The race was won by Elsworth's other runner, Rhyme 'N' Reason, who carried a stone less than he should have done because of Desert Orchid's over-night declaration.

Elsworth claimed at the time that

a mistake by Chris Hill, his secretary, had led to Desert Orchid being declared and the Jockey Club stewards, after taking evidence from the trainer and his secretary, accepted the trainer's admission that he had not deliberately misled either the stewards of the meeting or the general public.

In a few weeks' time Elsworth will be back at the Jockey Club to explain why traces of an illegal substance were found in Cavvies Clown after each of his last three victories, but in between Elsworth will be hoping that Floyd, in the Champion Hurdle today, and one of his three runners in the Gold Cup will give him cause to forget his troubles.

END COLUMN

# Jeffrey should have to pay up

By David Hands

Rugby Correspondent

The affair of John Jeffrey and the Calcutta Cup — it sounds vaguely like a title for *Bay's Own* — seems to have grown splendidly out of proportion. There was always the chance that it would, I suppose, once a committee got to work on it. Let us recount the rather limited facts at our disposal. At the official dinner in Edinburgh after the game between Scotland and England on March 5 the cup, insured for £10,000, is passed among the players. It disappears from sight for a time and returns damaged, after apparently having been taken out of the hotel by some players.

The Scottish Rugby Union estimates that the damage will cost some £1,000 to make good. That is serious. So is the fact that some players were sufficiently drunk to abuse a trophy whose value is enhanced by the traditions associated with it.

The spotlight has fallen upon Jeffrey, the Kelse flanker, whose connection with the sorry affair is admitted. The Scottish selectors omitted him from the seven squad to visit Australia next month as punishment for the SRU has suspended him from playing rugby until August 31.

It has also forwarded details of its findings to the Rugby Football Union, leaving it to take "such steps as they deem appropriate," which indicates that Scotland expect some reciprocal action from England.

# An English player is also involved

The SRU has stated that an English player was involved and north of the border they are quite happy that they know who. "I had not expected Scotland to extend Jeffrey's punishment," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said yesterday.

He has been in contact with John Burgess, the RFU president, and when they have considered the SRU report they will announce their own decision before Saturday's game at Twickenham between England and Ireland so that the Englishman concerned can play in that game without the uncertainty of an unknown punishment awaiting him.

The punishment awarded Jeffrey, who scored a try in helping Kelse to the Scottish club championship on Saturday, is not quite as meaningful as it sounds. April is the month for sevens in Scotland, the club season having all but finished.

He misses two visits to Australia, one for the bi-centennial sevens, the other for the game between the Rest of the World and Australia in May, and the possibility of a tour to Zimbabwe for which, since it is not a senior party tour in the strictest sense, he might not have been chosen anyway. Nice perks for any player, but hardly the stuff of international drama.

What is clear, however, is that he should not be left to take the rap himself. If another player was involved he should receive an appropriate punishment that is not, I suggest, anything to do with the playing of the game.

# A playing ban is not appropriate

One can be drunk and disorderly without having been anywhere near a sporting occasion and, in the normal course of events, if you have damaged someone else's property without any obvious malicious intent you can quite reasonably be asked to pay for it.

I cannot see any reason why, in this instance, Jeffrey and anyone else who was involved in a stupid prank should not pay for the damage they have caused. There is no question of lack of discipline upon the rugby field, therefore it seems inappropriate for a suspension from rugby to be imposed.

Anyone connected with the game at whatever level can think back to times in their playing career when the property belonging to others was abused, broken or stolen and eventually someone had to pay for it.

One British Lions party to South Africa left a trail of destruction through the republic and members of it gloried in being called "wreckers." To anyone else they might more appropriately have been called hooligans.

The Calcutta Cup has been damaged; those responsible should pay for repairs — literally.

# Budd facing exile from international athletics

By Pat Butcher

Athletics Correspondent

Zola Budd's international running career could be at an end. She will almost certainly be withdrawn from the British world cross-country team today following further pressure on the International Amateur Athletic Federation and on the South African-born athlete herself. That should lead to calls for her Olympic exemption and virtual disenfranchisement from athletics.

The British Amateur Athletic Board, the final arbiter in the immediate case of the world cross-country team, has delayed a decision until today. But the attitude of the IAAF, in a statement yesterday, is abundantly clear.

Referring to a letter, sent by it to the BAAB last Friday, the IAAF called upon the Board to withdraw Budd from any further competition until the next IAAF council meeting (in London on April 15), saying that: "The BAAB is not now in a position to guarantee the eligibility of Zola Budd to participate in any competition under IAAF rules."

The IAAF cited "new evidence" concerning Budd's activities in South Africa last year, which refers to alleged participation by Budd in a race in Brakpan in late June, 1987, and her involvement in some sort of awards ceremony at a New Year's Eve race in Randfontein.

Budd's immediate response, after being summoned to the Board offices yesterday morning to answer the allegations, was that they were "infantile, and easy to prove that I did not do". She said that the Randfontein "incident" was no more than a little girl thrusting flowers into her hand at a race.

In a later statement, referring to the Brakpan race as "an old and unsubstantiated rumour", she asked: "Why wait until after the world championship race on March 26 to investigate this rumour? Any so-called evidence must,

Zola Budd's statement  
The statement issued by Zola Budd to the British Amateur Athletic Board, and written in her own hand, read:

I wish, once again, to make it clear that there is absolutely no truth whatsoever in the allegation that I took part in a cross-country race in South Africa in June of last year — or indeed in any other competition there.

I understand that in the run-up to the World Cross-Country Championship (an event which I have twice won for Britain) there is renewed pressure to have me suspended from international competition. The latest pressure apparently comes from the International Amateur Athletic Federation on the basis of an old and unsubstantiated rumour that I took part in a race in Brakpan, South Africa, in June 1987.

What would be disturbing is that if despite the evidence and if, despite my repeated denials at recent meetings with the British athletic authorities, those authorities were now to choose to give this rumour some credence on the very eve of my departure with the British team to run for them in Auckland.

As any sportsman or spectator will realize, this sort of pressure makes the preparation for such a championship difficult, if not impossible.

I was chosen for the British team after being invited to run in the trial at Gateshead. Both the British authorities and the IAAF have subsequently stated that I have done nothing to contravene any regulation which would disqualify me from competition.

by definition, have been available since June, 1987.

Tony Ward, the BAAB spokesman, pointed out that the IAAF had not furnished the "new evidence", and said that, "the Board was considering its response." That response will certainly come today and Ward admitted that there would be no repercussions like the whole British team being withdrawn as a result of the IAAF pressure.

It is difficult to see what evidence the IAAF could possibly have from the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, where this latest pressure began to build up last week. But there is little doubt as to why the pressure for Budd's withdrawal has accelerated in the last two days.

The Kenyan Government issued a short-fused threat to withdraw its team, which has dominated the world cross-country championship in the last two years. Sospeter Rassa, a permanent secretary at the

Kenyan Ministry of Culture and Social Services, said: "We have consulted with our government, and we have decided to go by the declaration of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa."

Robert Onko, the secretary of the Kenyan Athletic Federation, then teleaxed the IAAF asking for clarification of the position on Budd, and threatening that Kenya would withdraw if a satisfactory reply was not received before last night.

The Africans competed at both world championships when Budd, running in England colours, won the women's title in 1985/6. But opinion hardened after Budd's last long sojourn in South Africa. Despite the IAAF's semantic declaration of "not asking for the athlete's suspension, merely withdrawal from competition until the outstanding questions have been answered", this is the lever that Budd's critics

Zola Budd

want, in order to then engineer her removal from international athletics altogether. In its statement the IAAF said: "It is stressed that, at this moment in time, the IAAF is not asking for the athlete's suspension, merely withdrawal from competition until the outstanding questions have been answered and the IAAF Council reaches its decision."

"Evidence new to the IAAF was provided early last week concerning Zola Budd's activities in South Africa during 1987, thus necessitating a review by the IAAF Council." The statement went on: "It was the unanimous opinion of the 23 members of the IAAF Council, drawn from all continents, that the BAAB is not now in a position to guarantee the eligibility of Zola Budd."

"Therefore, on March 11, a letter was sent in the name of the IAAF Council to the BAAB indicating the Council's concern."

# FA maintain Cup television policy

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The Football Association yesterday refused to break an ancient tradition and permit the FA Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest to be shown live to the nation. The tie may be yet be televised but only to a restricted audience on close-circuit.

Although Liverpool's average crowd is more than twice the size of their opponents, they have been allocated only 25,000 tickets at Hillsborough on April 9. Forest, whose supporters will be shepherded to the nearby motorway by the police, have been granted 29,000.

"It is an unfortunate situation," Peter Robinson, Liver-

pool's secretary, said yesterday, "but crowd control is of the utmost importance. This is such an attractive tie that I don't think even Wembley would be big enough to accommodate the people who want to see it. The demand is going to be so great that close-circuit television is something we are considering."

Ted Croker, the FA's secretary, confirmed that an approach by the BBC was "discussed at the draw but we decided that tradition should be maintained."

Luton Town, who have already qualified for three events at Wembley, will take on Wimbledon in the other semi-final at White Hart Lane.

# Casey leaves Hull gasping

The Hull directors, who were caught on the hop by the sudden weekend resignation of their coach, Len Casey, will meet tonight to try to sort out the problems caused only a fortnight before the Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final with Halifax (Keith Macklin writes).

John Rawlings, the Hull chairman, yesterday said that Casey's resignation was "something of a bombshell" and had come at a difficult time.

On Sunday the Hull team were in the charge of deputy coaches Tony Dean and Keith Hepworth, and they responded with surprise 22-12 victory over their Cup opponents, Halifax.

Casey said he had decided to give up the coaching job at

Hull because "I have had no support from the directors, particularly in finding money to buy players." Hull have slumped to a position near the bottom on the first division table and are in serious danger of relegation.

The directors will tonight consider several options, though time is not on their side with the semi-final due a week on Saturday. They can give the job to the combination of Dean and Hepworth, with Dean, a former half-back with Hull, the front runner for a permanent appointment.

On two other interesting options Rawlings would make no comment, but indicated that they may be in the directors' minds. Hull may advertise in Australian newspapers for a coach from that country.

# Milton may not travel to Seoul

By Findlay Davidson

Next Milton, the horse on which John Whitaker was the British Show Jumping Association's leading moneywinner last year, may not be available for him to ride at the Olympic Games in Seoul.

Mrs Tom Bradley, the owner of the horse, said yesterday: "At the moment Milton will not go to the Games, but they are a long way off. We do not like to deny John the chance of the ride there, but Milton is the only horse that we have."

Milton was sired by Marius, on which the Bradleys' daughter, Caroline, had so many good wins, and was ridden by her in novice classes before her death in June 1983.

The Bradleys must be concerned that certain horses exported from West Germany to South Korea for a modern pentathlon competition have mysteriously died.

Last year in addition to winning a team gold medal at the European Championships in St Gallen, Milton took the individual silver medal, and also won the Rotterdam grand prix. This year he won the Volvo world cup qualifier in Paris. In Dortmund last Friday he won the grand prix of West Germany.

Ronnie Massarella, the British chief d'equipe, and General Sir Cecil Blacker, the chairman of the BSJA selectors, declined to comment.

# SPORT IN BRIEF

# Brennan in talks

Mark Brennan, the Ipswich Town midfielder player dropped before last Saturday's match with Hull City, is wanted by Middlesbrough to strengthen their challenge for promotion to the first division.

Bruce Rioch, the Middlesbrough manager, will meet Brennan for talks later in the week but Ipswich may require more than the £250,000 believed to be on offer before agreeing to sell.

# Jack Search

Jack Search, the Everton director, has died in hospital at the age of 72. A member of the club's board of directors for 11 years, he spent his playing days as an amateur with New Brighton and Liverpool.

# Britain's babes

Sharon Page, aged 16, and Joanna Coull, aged 14, have been named in Great Britain's team for the inter-nations match against Italy, Sweden and Spain in Como, Italy on April 23 and 24.

# Sydney bid

Sydney is to bid for the 1996 Olympic Games, the New South Wales government announced yesterday.

# Fives dozen

Old Cholmeleians beat Old Wulfrunians 2-1 in the Eton Fives Barber Cup final at Eton yesterday to win the competition for the twelfth successive year.

# Kirkwood out

James Kirkwood, a leading inside forward, has withdrawn from the Great Britain team for the Champions' Trophy tournament starting at Lahore on March 25 because of a back injury. His place has been taken by Richard Leman, of East Grinstead.

# Baptiste signs

Eldine Baptiste, the West Indies all-rounder, is to join Oldham, the Central Lancashire League club, as professional.

# Antigua supported

St John's (Rother) — Antigua, the small island which has produced such talented players as Viv Richards, says it has received the support of the Leeward Islands Cricket Association (LICA) in its attempt to play as a separate entity in regional Caribbean cricket, and will submit its claim at the West Indies board meeting in May.

# Oarswomen to have their own Henley event

Oarswomen return to Henley for the first time since 1982 this year in a special domestic and international regatta on June 17 and 18 (Jim Raiton writes). It will be raced over 2,000 metres downstream, starting at the enclosures on Remenham Farm.

The committee chairman Chris Aistrop, an international oarswoman in 1974, said yesterday: "The regatta fills a much needed gap for oarswomen and scullers."

Among the 16 events will be races for domestic college, eighth and university eights, open to Oxford, Cambridge, London Universities and overseas entries. The highlight should be three straight races between the United States, probably represented by Harvard and Yale, and England.

# Last look for four selectors

By David Hands

Even though the main event at the climax of the five nations' championship comes this week in Cardiff, when Wales play France for the grand slam, London can hardly be written off as a side-show.

England's A and B teams play Ireland and Spain at Twickenham (Saturday) and Imber Court (Friday) respectively with players eager to clinch places on the forthcoming tour to Australia.

Geoff Cooke, the England manager, hopes to be in a position to announce the tour party of 26 a week today, following a preliminary selection meeting over the coming weekend.

"Because we have had all the leading players together for senior and B squads, they are clearly the people in the running to go on tour," Cooke said.

That does not necessarily preclude such players as Stuart

Barnes, the Bath stand-off half, who took four months to recover from a facial injury but has been packing in as many matches as possible in the last fortnight in an attempt to demonstrate his recovery.

In his absence, however, and that of John Hall, his club colleague who has also been plagued by injury this season, others have been taking the opportunity to impress. They will hope to be in the tour party whose first assembly will be in Ireland over the weekend of April 23, when England have a full-blown international against Ireland to celebrate Dublin's millennium.

That game, for which caps will be awarded, comes only a week before the John Player Special Cup final. Nevertheless, England will pick their strongest XV. "It is my belief that playing for your country takes precedence over any

club match, even a cup final," Cooke said.

England's forwards for this week's game against Ireland assemble tomorrow for scrummaging practice against the B XV forwards at the Stoop Memorial ground.

France, however, have had to make two changes to the XV to play Wales. Cambarbero and Berot were injured on Sunday and their places at stand-off half and wing go to Lescarboura and Lafond respectively.

Des Fitzgerald, the Irish prop forward, is considered doubtful for the international against England. Fitzgerald has a back injury and has not played since Ireland's international against Wales three weeks ago. The player also broke his nose in that match.

Obituary on Dr Ronald Cove-Smith, the former England captain, page 20

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